

WAYNE COUNTY PROGRESSIVE NETWORK
MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

October 22, 2008

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

New attendees/guests: Jim Riley, Dave Speaker (?)

Minutes of the September meeting were approved as emailed, on a motion from Jim Anderson, seconded by Gordon Shull.

The Treasurer's Report was read by Dave Sears in the absence of Erwin Riedner. All current bills are paid and we have a positive balance on hand. Betsy Sheets moved to accept report as read, seconded by Cindy Slater. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

City Council: Mindy Cavin reported that there are "issues" with the Wayne Co. Airport: this should be under the purview of the County Commissioners. Sunshine laws are being ignored and unpublicized meetings have been held.

Democratic Party: Jean Mohr reports that \$600 in donations has been received from the State Party, primarily as a result of online PayPal donations. Peter James has revised the Wayne Co. Party website, making it much more functional and attractive, as well as adding the PayPal option.

Old Business:

Farmers Forum at the Anderson Farm: Went very well, with approximately 100 people in attendance, and was very informative.

New Business:

A detailed review of state ballot issues was discussed.

Issue #1: Earlier cut-off date for ballot issue petitions.

Issue #2: Amendment to issue bonds for the Clean Ohio program

Issue #3: Amendment to protect groundwater rights and waterways access

Issue #5: Payday Lending: puts a 28% cap on their APR

Issue #6: To allow a casino in Clinton Co.

Discussion of meeting dates for November and December: Dates for both months fall on the evening before a holiday when the library will close at 6 p.m. It was agreed to meet on November 19 and to skip the December meeting.

Good and Welfare: Donna Riley (wife of Jim) had recent surgery and is healing well, but they are still waiting for pathology reports.

Business meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m. Following a quick snack break, the group was addressed by Kevin Powers, a member of the Library Board of Trustees, about the replacement levy on the coming ballot.

Interesting statistics: The old building is now the "Tech/Operations Center."

Volume of use is 50% higher in the new building, with an average of 1500 visits a day.

As of the September 2008 report, there had been 118,000 sign-ins on library computers in the Wooster building alone.

In the last year, there have been 69,000,000 hits on the library's web site. (Yes. That's 69 million.)

As of now, two-thirds of the library's operating budget comes from the state of Ohio; it used to be more, but the numbers have declined every year since 2001 as the state economy has declined. If the ballot levy fails, the library will lose one third of its operating budget as of January 1, 2009.