



NOVI HISTORICAL COMMISSION

JULY Minutes

Wednesday, July 19, 2023

Novi Library Local History

CALL TO ORDER: 7:04 pm

ATTENDANCE: Kim Nice, Debbie Wrobel, Sharon Larson, Kathy Crawford, Dan Pierce, Rae Manela

ABSENT: Kelly Kasper

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS: Betty Lang and Sue Grifor,

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: APPROVED w/ amendments

APPROVAL OF JUNE MINUTES: APPROVED

TREASURER'S REPORT- Kim

NOVI HISTORICAL COMMISSION
FINANCIAL SUMMARY REPORT - 2023/2024 Fiscal Year

	BUDGET	EXPENDITURES Through July 19, 2023	
Display Cabinet Exhibit	\$ 500	\$ -	
Marketing/Brochures/Engage/Name Badges	\$ 900	\$ -	
Equipment/Supplies/Office/Upgrades/Repairs	\$ 9,000	\$ -	
Program/Speaker Fees	\$ 1,200	\$ -	
Storage Unit	\$ 2,900	\$ (2,652.00)	
Acquisition (Books/Materials)	\$ 1,500	\$ -	
Conference/Continuing Education	\$ 1,200	\$ -	
Legal Fees	\$ 500	\$ -	
Special Projects Examples: Villa Barr, Photography, Veterans Sign, Oral Histories, City/Community Events, Motor City Marker)	\$ 4,000	\$ -	
Total:	\$ 21,700	\$ (2,652.00)	\$ 19,048
Equitable Projects	Expenditures	Revenue Received	
Villa Barr Book Sales YTD		\$0.00 YTD	
Wreaths Across Novi Project		\$ 897.38	carryover funds

Treasurer's Report: ALL APPROVED

Kim presented the 2022-2023 fiscal year-end report. The Commission spent \$7,993.90 of the \$15,000 budget.

LIBRARY LIAISON REPORT:

Oakland County Historical Research (OCHR): The cost to renew membership would be \$1,200. The OCHR puts the Novi newspaper editions on the site digitally, so they are accessible to researchers. There was discussion and concerns around OCHR not making newspapers available digitally. The Commission and may explore other options should the problem persist.

History Room Office Hours:

Closed for July and August

Monday, 9/18 (6-8 p.m.): Kelly Kasper

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Changing Office Hours Days/Times: Rae asked the Commission to consider new dates and times for office hours. The new dates are meant to allow more Commissioners to be available to volunteer. Rae is asking for Commissioners to come back next month with possible suggestions.

2023 – 2024 History Speakers Series: There are five events scheduled for 2023-2024 CY year:

- Thursday, Sept. 21, 2023 – A City Called Midnight
- Thursday, Oct. 19, 2023 – One Room School House
- Thursday, March 21, 2024 – Women of Michigan’s Capitol
- Thursday, April 18, 2024 – History of Detroit Coney Island
- Thursday, May 16, 2024 – Survivors, Victims & Legacies

Marilyn Combs: Marilyn was part of the last class at the Bassett School House. Next Wednesday, July 26 at 4 p.m., Marilyn will meet travel back to the site of the old schoolhouse and meet with Carin Fifer who now owns the house and has since renovated it. Commissioners will attend the meeting and facilitate an interview/discussion.

Wisdom Exchange: Novi resident Henry Yim asked Kathy Crawford for names of more senior Novi residents willing to meet with younger Novi residents and share knowledge and the history of the area. Kathy asked some of the Commissioners if they might be interested in participating.

Novi History Tour Request: Kathy Crawford reached out to Jeff Muck at the City of Novi about using a city bus for a Walton Wood resident tour of Novi. Walton Wood is now figuring out possible timing. Kathy Crawford also received a request from Fox Run for her to do a program on the “Walled Lake Amusement Park” and Novi history in August 2024.

ONGOING PROJECTS:

Omeka Update: The Commission voted to create a \$2500 stipend for either an undergraduate or graduate student to complete data entry for the photographs of all the tombstones in the Knapp and Novi Rd Cemetery. Rae will work on a write-up of the job description and send it to the appropriate schools.

Cemetery Sign Update: Signs have been ordered and the city will install them when they arrive.

Miniature Project: Kathy is setting up a meeting for Aug. 2 in the History Room.

NEW BUSINESS: NONE

Wreaths Across Novi: Looking at expanding the event and making it bigger. Kim would like to include the Boy Scouts again and create a gift for people/organizations who have supported the event for 5 years. Kim will also begin reaching out to possible donors/sponsors.

PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE

NEXT MEETING: August 16, 2023, at 7 p.m.

ADJOURN: 8:46 p.m.