



## NOVI HISTORICAL COMMISSION

**MARCH Minutes**  
**Wednesday, March 20, 2024**  
**Novi Library Local History**

**CALL TO ORDER:** 7:05 p.m.

**ATTENDANCE:** Kim Nice, Sharon Larson, Kathy Crawford, Dan Pierce and Debbie Wrobel and Randy Van Wagnen

**ABSENT:** Kelly Kasper

**INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** Rae Manela (Library Liaison) and Sue Grifor

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** APPROVED

**APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY MINUTES w/ Amendments:** APPROVED

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

	BUDGET	EXPENDITURES Thru Mar 20, 2024	
Display Cabinet Exhibit	\$ 500.00	\$ (46.67)	
Marketing/Brochures/Engage/Name Badges	\$ 900.00	\$ -	
Equipment/Supplies/Office/Upgrades/Repairs	\$ 9,000.00	\$ (509.10)	
Program/Speaker Fees	\$ 1,200.00	\$ (655.00)	
Storage Unit	\$ 2,900.00	\$ (2,652.00)	
Acquisition (Books/Materials/Subscriptions)	\$ 1,500.00	\$ (1,550.00)	
Conference/Continuing Education	\$ 1,200.00	\$ (50.00)	
Legal Fees	\$ 500.00	\$ -	
Special Projects <i>Examples:</i> Villa Barr, Photography, Veterans Sign, Oral Histories, City/Community Events, MotorCities Markers, Omeka Intern	\$ 4,000.00	\$ (15,148.79)	
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$ 21,700.00</b>	<b>\$ (20,611.56)</b>	<b>\$ 1,088.44</b>
Equitable Projects	<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>Revenue Rec'd</u>	
Villa Barr Book Sales YTD		\$ -	
Wreaths Across Novi Project-2023	\$ 2,281.10	\$ 3,100.00	

Treasurer's Report: APPROVED – expenses were submitted/approved for the Omeka subscription and the library intern who worked on the data entry for the Novi tombstones.

### LIBRARY LIAISON REPORT:

#### History Room Office Hours:

Mon., April 1 (12 – 2 p.m.): Debbie Wrobel & Sharon Larson

Mon., April 15 (6 – 8 p.m.): Kelly Kasper & Randy Van Wagnen

Mon. May 6 (12 – 2p.m.): Debbie Wrobel & Kim Nice

Mon. May 20 (6 – 8p.m.): Kelly Kasper

**Rescheduled Historical Program:** The History of Detroit Coney Island speaker unfortunately had to reschedule his talk due to a surgery. The new date will be Monday, June 10 at 7 p.m.

**Michigan History Day:** Rae Manela will be judging the Michigan Historical Society's Michigan History Day competition. The event will take place at Central Michigan on April 20, 2024.

**Room Standards:** Rae Manela reminded the Commission team members to be sure to put books, photographs, etc. away should they see anything removed or out of place. Rae will provide some options for storing materials that need to be kept out for “in-progress” research projects Commission members may be doing. Rae will also continue to serve as the point of contact for all Historical Commission needs.

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

### **Upcoming Historical Programs:**

- Thursday, March 21, 2024 – Women of Michigan’s Capitol
- Thursday, May 16, 2024 – Survivors, Victims & Legacies
- Monday, June 10, 2024 – History of Detroit Coney Island

**Novi Rotary Club Presentation:** The Novi Rotary Club asked the Novi Historical Commission (Kathy Crawford and Kim Nice) to provide a brief presentation on Novi history at the club’s March 28 meeting. Kathy and Kim will bring Villa Barr books and program flyers to the meeting.

**Michigan in Perspectives Conference:** The annual conference is taking place at Oakland University from March 22 – 24. Commissioners are encouraged to attend and provide a synopsis of any speaker presentations.

**Betty Lang Recognition and Plaque:** The plaque was ordered and received. The cost was around \$170 and comes with 12 bars to be engraved. The plaque will be placed by the door inside the Historical Commission.

**City Superhero Showcase:** Formerly known as Springapalooza, the event – for families – will take place on Thursday, June 6. The event showcases all the different departments within the city. Kelly Kasper and Randy Van Wagnen are working on ideas for the theme and prizes.

**Cemetery Sign Correction:** Kathy Crawford met with City of Novi’s Jeff Muck and he said the Department of Public Works will create a new sign for the cemetery.

**Tombstone Images:** Members of the Novi Photography Club members said they would be interested in helping taking images of the Novi Road cemetery tombstones. A plan is being developed to figure out how the cemetery can be divided up to make sure the photography is coordinated/captured.

## **ONGOING PROJECTS:**

**Document Donation Day:** Document Donation Day will take place from 1- 3 p.m. on Saturday, May 18 inside the Local History Room. Rae Manela will support the event and provide Commissioners with deeds of gifts. Commissioners Kim Nice, Kathy Crawford and Debbie Wrobel will support as well.

**Miniature Project:** Randy Van Wagnen reported that the project is going well and advancing. Randy will provide another update at the May meeting.

**Omeka Update:** The Knapp Cemetery photos have been uploaded and the data has been inputted. If the site is made public, we need a user rights statement. The Commission asked that the site not be made public until photos from the Novi Road Cemetery can be added making for a more robust site.

**Storage Unit:** Kim Nice will get some new quotes for storage lockers. The current lease ends in July and the storage facility needs to know the Commission's intention ahead of the renewal date.

**NEW BUSINESS:** NONE

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** NONE

**NEXT MEETING:** Wednesday, April 17 at 7 p.m.

**ADJOURN:** 8:43 p.m.