



NOVI HISTORICAL COMMISSION

November Minutes
Wednesday, November 20, 2024
Novi Library Local History

CALL TO ORDER: 7:04 p.m.

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

ABSENT: None

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: APPROVED

APPROVAL OF OCTOBER MINUTES: APPROVED

NOVI HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 FINANCIAL SUMMARY REPORT - 2024/2025 Fiscal Year

	BUDGET	EXPENDITURES Thru November 20, 2024	
Display Cabinet Exhibit	\$ 500.00	\$ (260.41)	
Marketing/Brochures/Engage/Name Badges	\$ 900.00	\$ -	
Equipment/Supplies/Office/Upgrades/Repairs	\$ 12,000.00	\$ (141.22)	
Program/Speaker Fees	\$ 1,200.00	\$ (783.70)	
Storage Unit	\$ 2,750.00	\$ (2,400.00)	
Acquisition (Books/Materials/Subscriptions)	\$ 2,000.00	\$ (50.00)	
Conference/Continuing Education	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	
Legal Fees	\$ 500.00	\$ -	
Special Project Items			
Betty Lang Internships		\$ -	
Oral Histories		\$ -	
City/Community Events		\$ (53.70)	
Photography		\$ -	
Special Project Totals	\$ 3,000.00	\$ (53.70)	
TOTAL:	\$ 23,850.00	\$ (3,689.03)	\$ 20,160.97

Equitable Projects
 Villa Barr Book Sales YTD
 Wreaths Across Novi Project

Expenditures Revenue Rec'd

Treasurer's Report: APPROVED – There were \$3,689 in expenses last month coming from printer supplies, Pumpkinfest participation, speaker series costs, membership to the Michigan Historical Society and display case expenses.

LIBRARY LIAISON REPORT:

New Microfilm Reader: Rae ordered the new microfilm reader and made an initial payment from the library. Once she receives a confirmation on delivery, she will share it with the Commission. It is expected the scanner should be up and running in January 2025.

Document Donation Day: The Commission hosted a Document Donation Day on Saturday, Nov. 2. While no documents were received, another donation day will be scheduled in the future.

Local History Room Organizational Update: Marissa, the library intern, continues to organize the Local History Room drawers and shelves. Marissa will be finishing her internship in December and will present a recap of her work at the Historical Commission's Dec. 18 meeting.

History Room Office Hours:

Monday, Dec. 2 (Noon – 2 p.m.): Debbie Wrobel and Sharon Larson

Monday, Dec. 16 (6 – 8 p.m.): Kelly Kasper and Kim Nice

Monday, January 6 (10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.): Kim Nice

Monday, January 20 (6 – 8 p.m.): None – MLK Day

Note: Local History Room hours will change in January. The hours for the first Monday of the month will be 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

2024-2025 Speaker Series: The upcoming 2024-2025 speakers series presentations are:

- November 21 – Great Lakes Storms of the Century

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

2025/2026 Budget FY Budget Proposal: The Commission needs to submit its 2025-2026 FY Budget to the Novi Library by Dec. 1. The Commission unanimously approved a budget proposal of \$19,350 which reflects an increase in areas including display case supplies, special projects, speaker fees, acquisitions, subscription costs, conferences, legal fees and a reduction in equipment.

Wreaths Across Novi: The event took place on Saturday, Nov. 16 and was well attended. Kim Nice provided remarks on the cemetery's history and some of the veterans buried there. A local VFW post played taps during the ceremony with boy/girl scouts helping place the wreaths.

Michigan Haunts Speaker Session: The Michigan Haunts speaker presentation went well and had a good crowd. Attendees enjoyed the presentation and asked lots of questions. The speakers may be asked to come back to present on other topics.

Ella Mae Powers Park Inquiry – Who Was She?: Ella Mae Power deeded land on the north side of Ten Mile Road, west of Wixom Road, to Novi Township. The land, however, was sold by the State of Michigan for unpaid taxes on the property. In the 1970s, City officials pushed the State to honor the donation by providing the proceeds of that sale to Novi. The City used the money to acquire the land that became the Civic Center, Police station and Ella Mae Power Park.

ONGOING PROJECTS:

Miniature Project: The miniature project committee met earlier in November to hammer out some of the details of the project and review the sizes/dimensions of the pieces inside the model store. Randy brought some of the new pieces to the Commission meeting to showcase progress and ask for feedback.

Villa Barr Books: The Novi Public Library has Villa Barr books for sale and put a flyer for the books in one of the main floor kiosks.

NEW BUSINESS: NONE

PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE

NEXT MEETING: December 18, 2024 at 7 p.m. **in the Novi Library Board Room**

ADJOURN: 8:32 p.m.