



## NOVI HISTORICAL COMMISSION

**February Minutes**

**Wednesday, February 19, 2025**

**Novi Library Local History Room**

**CALL TO ORDER:** 7:03 p.m.

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

**ABSENT:** Kelly Kasper

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

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA w/ Amendments:** APPROVED

**APPROVAL OF December MINUTES:** APPROVED

NOVI HISTORICAL COMMISSION FINANCIAL SUMMARY REPORT - 2024/2025 Fiscal Year				
		BUDGET	EXPENDITURES	
			Thru February 19, 2025	
Display Cabinet Exhibit		\$ 500.00	\$ (302.37)	
Marketing/Brochures/Engage/Name Badges		\$ 900.00	\$ (104.93)	
Equipment/Supplies/Office/Upgrades/Repairs		\$ 12,000.00	\$ (13,856.22)	
Program/Speaker Fees		\$ 1,200.00	\$ (1,259.18)	
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			\$ (1,500.00)	
Oral Histories			\$ -	
City/Community Events			\$ (53.70)	
Photography			\$ -	
Special Project Totals		\$ 3,000.00	\$ (1,553.70)	
<b>TOTAL:</b>		<b>\$ 23,850.00</b>	<b>\$ (19,526.40)</b>	<b>\$ 4,323.60</b>
Equitable Projects		Expenses	Sales / Contributions	
Villa Barr Book Sales YTD				
Wreaths Across Novi Project		\$ 2,195.84	\$ 1,825.00	

**Treasurer's Report:** APPROVED – Expenses last month were for half the payment for the new scanner, the library intern supporting the Commission, February speaker fees and for the Wreaths Across Novi banner.

### **LIBRARY LIAISON REPORT:**

**Betty Lang Internship:** The new library intern helping support the Novi Historical Commission started this month. She will work in the Local History Room on Fridays and Saturdays. She will help with organization of the room and digitization of images.

**External Hard Drive Request:** Rae asked for approval of an external hard drive to help back up the Local History Room computer and the work the library intern is doing. The motion was approved for up to \$100.

**Newspapers:** Rae received the digitized Novi News archives from the Lake Orion Library following the Oakland County Historical Records closing. Rae is exploring new options for storing the archives. Unfortunately, the Library of Michigan could not support.

**Document Donation Day:** The next document donation day will be held on Saturday, May 3 at the Novi Public Library.

**History Room Office Hours:**

Monday, March 3 (10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.): Randy Van Wagnen and Debbie Wrobel

Monday, March 17 (6 – 8 p.m.): Kelly Kasper and Kim Nice

Monday, April 7 (10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.): Sharon Larson and Kathy Crawford

Monday, April 21 (6 – 8 p.m.): Kelly Kasper and Dan Pierce

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

**Elections:** The Historical Commission held officer elections. The elections, run by Vice President Kathy Crawford, were conducted following Roberts Rules of Order. The following officers were elected:

- Chairperson/President – Kim Nice
- Vice Chair/Vice President – Kathy Crawford
- Secretary – Dan Pierce
- Treasurer – Sharon Larson

**By-Laws:** The Historical Commission will begin reviewing its by-laws and voting on any new changes at an upcoming meeting. Kim will send the by-laws to every commissioner.

**Cemetery Sign Update for Knapp Sign:** The Commission reviewed the option for using Novi's Department of Public Works to re-do the Knapp Cemetery sign. The Commission decided to explore other options for the cemetery sign.

**Fox Run Presentation:** Kathy Crawford will be giving a presentation on the history of Novi at Fox Run, Wednesday, March 26<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. Commission members will be attending as well.

**DYK Project:** Sharon and Dan provided Kim with "Did You Know" posts for the next month to place on the Commission Facebook page. The Commission will try to post Novi historical facts weekly/bi-weekly.

**Novi Public Library 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary:** The Commission is considering ways to support the Novi Public Library's 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration by having a table at the event and staffing the Local History room. The Commission will also donate its display case space to promote the event. The celebration will take place on Oct. 26 from 1-5 p.m.

**Michigan in Perspectives History Conference:** The annual history conference will take place March 28-29 at Oakland University. Historical Commission members are encouraged to attend as many of the presentations as possible.

**Miniature Project:** Progress continues to be made on the miniature project. The next meetings on the project will take place March 7 and 14 from 12-3 p.m. at the Youth Activity Room in the Novi Public Library.

**Program/Speaker Series for 2025:** The Commission is working on having Jim Craft provide a presentation on “The American Army in Normandy” for the Speaker Series on May 22, 2025.

**Novi Community Fest:** The annual Novi Community Fest will take place on Thursday, June 5 from 4 – 8 p.m. at the Novi Community Center. Organizers have asked the Novi Historical Commission to be involved again. Kim mentioned we would discuss ideas for participation at the March meeting.

#### **ONGOING PROJECTS:**

**Villa Barr Books:** The Novi Public Library has Villa Barr books for sale and a flyer is posted inside the library letting people know.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Items for Donations:** Kathy Crawford brought in a 1954 Board of Education Treasurer’s Report, a program from a play, newspaper articles, picture books, educational books for elementary school, the Novi Junior High dedication program and other items.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** NONE

**NEXT MEETING:** March 19, 2025 at 7 p.m.

**ADJOURN:** 8:39 p.m.