



NOVI HISTORICAL COMMISSION

March Minutes

Wednesday, March 18, 2026, at 7 PM
Local History Room, Novi Library

CALL TO ORDER: 7:05 p.m. **Chairperson:** Kim Nice

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

ABSENT:

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: APPROVED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: APPROVED

TREASURER’S REPORT: Sharon Larson

| FINANCIAL SUMMARY REPORT - 2025/2026 Fiscal Year | | | | |
|--|---------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------|
| | | BUDGET | EXPENDITURES | |
| | | | Thru Mar 18, 2026 | |
| Display Cabinet Exhibit | | \$ 700.00 | \$ (53.98) | |
| Marketing/Brochures/Engage/Name Badges | | \$ 900.00 | \$ - | |
| Equipment/Supplies/Office/Upgrades/Repairs | | \$ 3,000.00 | \$ (1,830.23) | |
| Program/Speaker Fees | | \$ 1,700.00 | \$ (821.74) | |
| Storage Unit | | \$ 2,750.00 | \$ (2,220.00) | |
| Acquisition (Books/Materials/Subscriptions) | | \$ 2,800.00 | \$ (50.00) | |
| Conference/Continuing Education | | \$ 1,300.00 | \$ (32.00) | |
| Legal Fees | | \$ 700.00 | \$ - | |
| Special Project Items | | | | |
| Betty Lang Internships | | | \$ (3,000.00) | |
| Oral Histories | | | \$ - | |
| City/Community Event | | | \$ (2,017.51) | |
| Four Corners Project | | | \$ (250.49) | |
| Photography | | | \$ - | |
| Special Projects Total | | \$ 5,500.00 | \$ (5,268.00) | |
| | TOTAL: | \$ 19,350.00 | \$ (10,275.95) | \$ 9,074.05 |
| Equitable Projects | | Expenditures | Revenue Rec'd | |
| Villa Barr Book Sales YTD | | | \$ 40.00 | |
| Revenue Rec'd - Wixom Historical Society | | | \$ 200.00 | |
| Wreaths Across Novi Project | | \$ 2,270.39 | \$ 2,450.00 | |

Library covered Omeka subscription temporarily,
and the commission owes the library \$350.

LIBRARY LIAISON REPORT: Rae Manela

Omeka allows us to archive our newspapers. OCHR is defunct. No historical newspapers now available. The library is working to digitize and publish the Novi News. These documents will be searchable.

Document collection for Novi community continues.

Final proof for Summer Engage is ready and corrected to include commission events.

Dig up history. Planned: floor map for students to dig up, silver and gold buttons, Lincoln logs, buckets, tarps for sand catching, packs of revolutionary war soldiers and cannons, dinosaurs. Going to use many existing library assets. Carnival games for Walled Lake Amusement Park exhibit remain to be planned.

Final decision – no camera in history room, room to remain locked.

History Room Office Hours:

- Monday, April 6th 10:30-12:30 Kathy/Sharon
- Monday, April 20th 6-8 pm Kim
- Monday, May 4th 10:30-12:30 Kathy/Debbie
- Monday, May 18th 6-8 pm Kim / Randy

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- Annual Elections – Kathy Crawford to facilitate.
 - Chair – Kim Nice
 - Vice Chair – Kathy Crawford
 - Treasurer – Sharon Larson
 - Secretary – Randy Van Wagnen

- Novi's Community Impact Day- 5-13-26. Project being submitted.
- Novi Note Request for Photos. Kim to follow up.
- Trevor from Studio 6 is shooting in the history room March 26
- Summer 2026 Pgm. – "Dig Up History" (Rae, Kim, Randy) Sunday, July 12 1-3 p.m.
 - Follow-up meeting May 5
- Villa Barr Presentation in Wixom – February 16th at 7 pm.-Kathy Crawford. Reviewed.
- Fall 2026 Program Meeting-Kim, Debbie, Sharon, Sue
- Reviewed Options for Member Recruitment
- "Did you Know" Project: In progress
- Miniature Project, Part II – Kathy/Randy & Team (Schedule Fridays in April)
 - Roof constructed. Working on porch block.

- April 10 and 24 proposed, Rae to investigate.

- **Upcoming Events:**

Wednesday April 8: Michigan Food and Drink at 7pm

Document Donation Day, Saturday, March 21st 10-12:30

Local History Conference at Oakland University, Fri-Sat, March 27th & 28th

CommunityFest, Thursday, June 4th 3-8pm. Kim, Sue

ONGOING PROJECTS

- Omeka (see notes above)
- Display Case – Sue/Kim
- By-Law Review – Ongoing process (will review again in June 2026)
- Villa Barr Book Sales New Sales and Front Desk – 2 sold
- Gravestone Photos – Kim & Rae

NEW BUSINESS

PUBLIC COMMENT

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, April 15, 2026, at 7pm ADJOURN:

8:23 p.m.