



NOVI HISTORICAL COMMISSION

DECEMBER Minutes
Wednesday, December 20, 2023
Novi Library Local History

CALL TO ORDER: 7:04 pm

ATTENDANCE: Kim Nice, Sharon Larson, Kathy Crawford, Kelly Kasper, Dan Pierce and Debbie Wrobel

ABSENT: None

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS: Rae Manela (Library Liaison), Sue Grifor, Dorothy Duchesneau and Mike Duchesneau

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: APPROVED

APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER MINUTES: APPROVED

NOVI HISTORICAL COMMISSION FINANCIAL SUMMARY REPORT - 2023/2024 Fiscal Year					
	BUDGET	EXPENDITURES			
		Through December 20, 2023			
Display Cabinet Exhibit	\$ 500	\$ (37.67)			
Marketing/Brochures/Engage/Name Badges	\$ 900	\$ -			
Equipment/Supplies/Office/Upgrades/Repairs	\$ 9,000	\$ (34.55)			
Program/Speaker Fees	\$ 1,200	\$ (300.00)			
Storage Unit	\$ 2,900	\$ (2,652.00)			
Acquisition (Books/Materials)	\$ 1,500	\$ (1,200.00)			
Conference/Continuing Education	\$ 1,200	\$ (50.00)			
Legal Fees	\$ 500	\$ -			
Special Projects Examples: Villa Barr, Photography, Veterans Sign, Oral Histories, City/Community Events, Motor City Marker)	\$ 4,000	\$ (10,099.62)			
Total:	\$ 21,700	\$ (14,373.84)	\$ 7,326		
Equitable Projects		Expenditures	Revenue Received		
Villa Barr Book Sales YTD			\$0.00 YTD		
Wreaths Across Novi Project		\$ 3,100.00	\$ 897.38	carryover funds	

Treasurer’s Report: APPROVED as Amended – *No new expenses from last month.*

LIBRARY LIAISON REPORT:

History Room Office Hours:

- Mon. Jan. 1 (no office hours)
- Mon. Jan. 15 (6-8pm) Kim Nice & Debbie Wrobel
- Mon. Feb. 5 (12-2pm) Sharon Larson & Kim Nice
- Mon. Feb. 19 (6-8pm) Kelly Kasper & Kim Nice

Library Intern: The library has an intern, Justin, will do a shelf review of the books in the Local History Room in January. As part of the review, he will be checking books against the room’s inventory list and looking for lost or misplaced items. He will also look for books that have been damaged and decide if they should be repaired or discarded.

Local History Room Computer: Rae Manela will be looking through the computer and helping convert images from jpeg to tiffs. This will be better for saving the images long-term, eliminating possible digital degradation.

Development of Library's Photo Lending Policy: Reviewing photo lending policy of other libraries to help create one for the Novi Public Library. This includes attribution for photos shared for use in books, research or other projects.

Micro-film Scanner: Rae is getting three bids for a new history room scanner. She will present a recommendation for the Historical Commission to decide in February.

Betty Lang Recognition: The Commission considered several ideas for recognizing the service Betty Lang has provided the Novi Historical Commission and Novi Library for more than 30 years. Ideas will be reviewed and voted on at the January meeting.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Commission Opening/Interviews: Interviews took place for the two commissioners (Debbie Wrobel and Kelly Kasper) seeking re-appointment to the Novi Historical Commission at the December Novi City Council Meeting. A candidate (Randy Van Wagnen) was also considered for the open position on the Commission.

Commission Elections: Commissioners were asked to think about the positions they would like to hold next year. Elections will take place at the January meeting.

Holiday History at Lakeshore: The event took place on Dec. 15 at 2 p.m. Commissioners Kathy Crawford, Kim Nice and Sharon Larson, along with volunteer Sue Grifor, worked on the program. The event received a lot of good feedback from participants.

Miniature Project: A new meeting with the Novi Historical Commission and the students at the Washtenaw Community College will be planned in the new year. The class at WCC are also interested in doing a future project on the Walled Lake Amusement Park.

Upcoming Historical Programs:

- 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

Cemetery Sign Correction: Jeff Muck is looking at possible solutions for fixing the spelling error on the Novi Road Cemetery sign.

ONGOING PROJECTS:

Tombstone Images: Kim Nice is looking into seeing if the Novi Photography Club would re-take images of the tombstones in Novi Road Cemetery. An update will be provided at the January meeting.

Motor City Markers Brochure: The cost to re-print is \$1 per brochure. The Commission will order 500 of them and see how long they will last before ordering more.

Document Donation Day: Looking at a Saturday in May for document donation day (1-3 p.m.) in the future. This will be the first time the Commission does a document day on a Saturday.

NEW BUSINESS:

Human Library Project: The Novi Library is considering bringing in this project next Fall. It's a program that allows people to apply to share their story (a doctor, a refugee, etc.). People can "check" the person out and have a discussion with the "human book." More details to come.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Dorothy Duchesneau asked how the Historical Commission is funded. Kathy Crawford explained it is funded by the City of Novi under the umbrella of the Novi Library. She also asked if monetary donations can be made to the Novi Historical Commission. Rae Manela said that any donation should go through the friends of the Library (a 501c3).

Mike Duchesneau said he thought the Commission was an interesting group. Mike also asked about Library funding and if the Historical Commission was a line item part of the budget.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, Jan. 17 at 7 p.m.

ADJOURN: 8:45 p.m.