Historical Commission Meeting
Madison Heights, Michigan
April 08, 2026

A Historical Commission Meeting was held on Wednesday, April 08, 2026 at 6:30 PM at Library - 240 W. 13 Mile Rd.

CALL TO ORDER

by Vice Chair Ballantine at 6:30pm

ROLL CALL

PRESENT
Vice Chair Jennifer Ballantine
Social Media Officer Kevin Wright
Council Representative Bill Mier
Regina Juska-Svoba
Kate Kapas
Jason Kowalski
Joel Seewald
Cheryl Suiter arrived at 6:35 p.m.
Rebecca Chambliss arrived at 6:37 p.m.
Treasurer Justin Suarez arrived at 7:30 p.m.

ALSO PRESENT
Staff Liaison Vanessa Verdun-Morris

EXCUSED
Chair Margene Scott
Mark Bliss
Martha Kehoe

ABSENT
Council Representative Alternate Sean Fleming

Excuse Chair Scott, Kehoe, and Bliss.

Motion made by Council Representative Mier, Seconded by Social Media Officer Wright.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS

Additions:

9.a. Banners
13. Trip to Madison Elementary
14. Fallen Soldiers

Motion made by Juska-Svoba, Seconded by Seewald. Passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. **Approve minutes from January 2026.**

Motion made by Council Representative Mier, Seconded by Kowalski. Passed unanimously.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

No public present wishing to speak.

WORK PLAN REVIEW

2. Work Plan 2026

   Work plan reviewed.

3. Digitization Report - Council Representative Mier, Council Alternate Fleming, Bliss, Suiter

   Council representative Mier reported. Piecing together information. Hoping to meet soon. Objective to preserve historical documents.

4. Public Relations - Vice Chair Ballantine, Treasurer Suarez, Social Media Officer Wright

   Vice Chair Ballantine and Wright reported that the committee has not met. Facebook page is booming. Lots of families attended Open House on 3/28, about 40 people. Next open houses dates are 6/28, 5pm-7:30pm, and 9/19, 10am-1pm.

5. Documentation - Chair Scott, Kowalski, Seewald

   Seewald stated there is nothing to report.

REPORTS

6. Treasurer Report - Treasurer Suarez

   Verdun-Morris provided the report by Treasurer Suarez.

7. Heritage Rooms - Chair Scott

   Update provided in Public Relations Report.

8. Social Media - Social Media Officer Wright

   Written report of statistics provided.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

9. T-shirt purchase - Bliss

   Discussion on future of t-shirts. Suggestion was made to remove "70 years" on future shirts.

9.a. Banner - Seewald

   Purchase feather sign with cross-base, ground spike, and carrying case for an amount not to exceed $350.

   Motion made by Kapas, Seconded by Council Representative Mier. Passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

10. Field trip to the Holocaust Museum - Council Alternate Fleming

    Table until information can be obtained by Council Alternate Fleming.

    Motion made by Kapas, Seconded by Juska-Svoba. Passed unanimously.

11. Juneteenth Celebration: Saturday, June 20, 12 p.m. - 6 p.m. - Wright

    Host a booth at Juneteenth Celebration.

    Motion made by Kapas, Seconded by Council Representative Mier. Passed unanimously.

12. Computer in Heritage Rooms - Verdun-Morris

    Verdun-Morris relayed that IT department said OpenOffice could no longer be used on computer due to security issues. Annual amount for MS Office G3 was provided. Commission discussed options and looking into use of free online versions of MS Office or Google Sheets.

13. Trip to Madison Elementary - Wright

    Create large durable photo poster that can be used for class visits at an amount not to exceed $50.

    Motion made by Chambliss, Seconded by Kapas. Passed unanimously.

14. Fallen Soldier Research - Seewald

    Draft of a Fallen Soldier report providing history on the Veteran's Memorial names was passed around the room. The report will be provided for library archives when complete.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Treasurer Suarez will bring a few items for the display on George Suarez at the June open house.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:09 p.m.

Motion made by Council Representative Mier, Seconded by Seewald. Passed unanimously.