

Oakland County Historical Commission
May 12, 2025, 7:00pm
BOC Board Room

- I. Called to order at 7:05pm. **Roll call:** Present – Decker, Egbo, Walls, Milne, Arwady, Mutch, Richardson. Absent – Murphy, Campbell.
- II. **Additions/changes to this agenda; acceptance of the agenda**
- III. **Approve minutes from April 14, 2025**
- IV. **New Business**
 - a. May is National Historic Preservation Month: social media update: first post about Preservation Month generally had just 96 views, but the second post about digitizing cemetery records at Oak Hill got nearly 1200 views! Two similar posts are planned; can also link to Carol's/Oakland County Parks Hike Through History posts
 - b. Juneteenth – OCHC to have a booth, can have information about the National Network to Freedom and UGRR in Oakland County
- V. **Old Business**
 - a. Decker's presentation to BOC on 5/22/25 at 6pm
 - i. This year's will tie in Advocacy, Collaboration, Education (ACE!)
 - ii. Consider making a hand-out?
 - iii. Need picture(s) for Accomplishments 2024 slide – Decker will see if OCHC has photos from 2024 summer social; Mutch sent him the booth photo; maybe a scan from Oak Hill records
 - iv. Let Decker know if there are other things to add to the Accomplishments 2024 slide
 - v. Decker will emphasize how we can react quickly for historic preservation (OCHR, Oak Hill, school, etc.) and aim to have time for BOC to ask questions at the end
 - vi. Should also mention county involvement with America250
 - b. 5 Year Plan – we're working toward one, planning is underway (see notes from April meeting), reiterate that this commission is made up of volunteers
 - c. Purchasing items: Replacement flash drives, projector (Egbo to check what OT uses-has narrowed it down and will send candidates to Decker), Moleskine-pads? – as a higher-end/workshop giveaway instead
 - d. Membership renewals – Decker will double check renewal dates for each
 - e. OCHR Update: Last meeting 3/20/2025, project is moving forward; Decker will follow up with Rick
- VI. **Committee Reports**
 - a. **At Risk Properties**
 - i. Rochester High School – no update

- ii. Roosevelt School – still in court
 - iii. Davis House; Diana Walls/Decker – no update
 - iv. Pickering Barn – Egbo: barn has been disassembled; Bowers Farm in Bloomfield has money to move disassembled parts, but not rebuild it; need to fundraise. Open to proposals from other orgs.
 - v. Payne/Waugh Cemetery
- b. Poster Project – Great Migration
 - i. Milne and Richardson update: Milne can give the county the file; Decker wondering about having a third party vet it first
 - ii. Egbo suggests asking Mike McGuinness for reviewer recommendations, and that Decker follow up with current County Head of Communications for formatting, branding, printing, and mailing to the libraries
 - iii. We need to choose next poster topic, too
 - iv. Preservation – McMath/Hulbert application is in process, Byers Farm marker applications – Decker is working through deeds and history to make sure everything is accurate

VII. Tabled Items – save for next time

VIII. Announcements/Adjournment

- a. Cemetery Coalition Meeting, May 20, 10:30-12pm, at Waterford Oaks Lookout Lodge – members to identify what records exist for their cemeteries and where can they be accessed; will talk about 1920s DAR records now back online at Family Search
- b. History Coalition Meeting, June 25, Pontiac Transportation Museum, 10:30-12:00pm – grassroots museum-building and volunteers will be the theme, then guided tour of museum

Meeting adjourned at 8:40pm.