

# Ortonville Community Historical Society

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Meeting Minutes for General Membership Meeting

– Submitted by Shauna Quick, OCHs Vice President

May 13, 2025 at 6:00pm

Old Mill Museum

366 Mill Street

Ortonville, MI 48462

## **1. Call to Order**

Meeting called to order by Alan A.

## **2-4. Pledge of Allegiance/Recognition of Guests/ New Members/Attendance**

Handled by Vice President Shauna Q. on behalf of Carol E.

## **5. Approval of Agenda**

Motion to approve agenda as amended (addition of item 12L: Christmas in the Village).

Motion passed.

## **6. Approval of Minutes, April 8 Gen. Membership Meeting**

Motion to approve the minutes was made and supported. Motion carried.

## **7. Treasurer's Report**

Report presented by Scott B. Audit returned with no irregularities. Report acknowledged and accepted.

## **8. Executive Officer Reports**

a. President (Alan A.):

- Attended small museum meeting in Montrose and Chelsea.
- Acquired mannequins from Chelsea Historical Society.
- Struggles with engaging NHS and middle school volunteers.
- Continued work with Shauna on branding guidelines.
- Sent back two Yosagaki Hinomaru flags to Japan as agreed.

b. Vice President (Shauna Q.):

- Worked on branding guide and door counter research.
- Updating new member procedures.
- Maintained the website and uploaded event listings.

c. Secretary (Carol E.): - Not present. No report.

d. Treasurer (Scott B.):

- No additional comments beyond the presented report.

## **9. Trustee Reports**

Kathy G.: Museum displays updated. Still determining proper location for scout items and other artifacts.

Kathy T., Ken B.: No reports.

Mary K.: Shared update from June about senior photo composites. Pamphlet design pending branding approval. Mary Alice S.: Not present.

## **10. Project Reports**

a. Architecture Services (Alan A.):

- No new updates. Will follow up with Ron Campbell.

b. Remote Vignettes in Vacant Storefronts (Alan A.):

- Completed. Posters placed in restyled creations storefront. Positive feedback received. Planning additional one for library's 100th anniversary.

c. Downtown Walking Tour and Student Narration (Carol E.): -  
No report.

## **11. Event Reports – Past**

a. May 3 – Vintage Sale (M15 Garage Sale) (Alan A.):

- Successful event with \$239.65 raised for the mill.
- Many attic items sold, especially antique chairs and pickled asparagus.
- Vendors and attendees were pleased. Estimated 300 visitors attended.
- Cleaned out attic space for future sales.

## **12. Event Reports – Future**

a. May 17 – Friends of Amos Spring Garden Market:

- Features seed bomb craft (Shauna Q.), farm animal petting area (Jeff J.), and corn grinding/shucking demonstration.

- Concessions and blacksmithing will also be included. - Volunteers needed to help cover the event from 10 AM to 2 PM.

b. May 29–30 – Elementary Schoolkids Campus Visit:

- 50 second-graders expected each day. Volunteers needed for docent-led stations. - Judy M. coordinating; various trustees and members volunteered to assist.

c. June 3 – “The Power of Fire and Heat”:

- Joint event with library. Blacksmithing demo following a library lecture. - Event starts at 6:30 PM at library, moves to the mill at 7:00 PM.

d. July 5 – Miracle Box Packing:

- Held on campus under large tent.  
- Attendees will pack one box each for military members.  
- Collection of items begins mid-June.  
- Potentially hosting the DDA Farmers Market onsite.

e. July 23 – Evening with Mountain Echoes Dulcimer Troop:

- Music event to be held at the museum; limited space available.  
- Publicity to include local newspaper, social media, and downtown website.

f. Sept 13 – SeptemberFest:

- Expanded age of contestants for the pie eating contest (Bueche’s providing pies).  
- Traditional pie baking and butter churning events may return.  
- Lumberjack show booked for 2026. - SeptemberFest planning ongoing.

g. Oct 3(?) – 8th Grade Museum Tour:

- Tentative plan to host students not going to D.C. trip. - Judy coordinating.

h. Oct 11 – Witches Night:

- Mary K. coordinating.  
- Discussions on spacing and conflicts between readers and tours.  
- Considering adding wine vendor to grounds. - Final details pending after Spring Garden Market.

i. Oct 31 – Halloween: -

Scott B. organizing.  
- One-way flow proposed for safety and ease. - No hot chocolate due to food license restrictions.

j. TBD – Antique Appraisal Events:

- Still under exploration; Alan A. to follow up with contact shared by Sandy M.

k. TBD – DUR Presentation @ Library:

- Postponed until Ken B. is ready with materials and images.

l. Dec 5–6 – Christmas in the Village:

- Motion passed to allow BGYA to use the school for kid crafts.
- Train setup and cookies to be handled separately by Judy and team.

### **13. Unfinished Business**

a. Village Agreement – Furnace Replacement (Alan A.):

- Village is actively seeking estimates for replacing the furnace.
- Proposed location is in the old basement to reduce visual impact in the museum space.
- Concerns about dampness and rust were noted. Final decision pending contractor input.

### **14. New Business**

a. Coverage Calendar:

- Members were encouraged to sign up for Saturday coverage to keep the mill open.
- Alan A. and Ken B. volunteered for multiple Saturdays.
- Calendar passed around for additional sign-ups.

### **15. Roundtable / Announcements**

- Election Committee: Nominating committee to be formed by May per bylaws. Final discussion to occur at May 21 board meeting.
- Light-protective glass project: Wren to compile list of at-risk artifacts and obtain estimates for UV-protective framing.
- Memorial Day Announcements: Flags will be placed on veterans' graves May 17; parade May 27 at 9:30 AM. Flyover requested.
- GAR Marker Restoration: 10 markers cleaned and coated to preserve lettering.
- Accordion Loan/Sale: Discussion deferred to Alan A. and Scott B. for coordination due to past sensitivities.

### **14. Next Meeting / Adjourn**

Motion to adjourn made by Scott B., Ken B. seconded, and passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned.