

Ortonville Community Historical Society
Minutes of General Membership Meeting Nov 11, 2025 6:00pm
Old Mill Museum - 366 Mill Street - Ortonville, MI 48462

“The Ortonville Community Historical Society shall work with local government, businesses, organizations and citizens of all ages to research, collect and safeguard our local heritage through living displays and authentic educational experiences.”

1. **Call to Order** - Alan called meeting to order at 6 PM
2. **Pledge of Allegiance** - All
3. **Recognition of Guests / New Members** --
4. **Attendance** / Sign-in -- Carol E, Sandy M, Stan H, Tom R, Grace G, Mari Ann V, Kathy G, Brent Blackburn, Scott B, Alan A, Tina A.
5. **Approval of Agenda** -- motion to approve by Scott – second by Stan Hughes – motion approved
6. **Approval of Minutes**, October Gen. Membership Meeting – motion to approve by Stan Huges and second by Mari Ann - approved
7. **Treasurer’s Report** -- Scott reported that in comparing last year and this year the report for this year seems longer because we seem to have more going on so more funds are coming in and more going out. motion to approve by Sandy M – second by Mari Ann - approved
8. **Executive Officer Reports**
 - a. President - Alan reported that OCHS received a thank you from Desert Angels the group that does the Miracle boxes project. It was a certificate of thanks. He also reported that OCHS was given a \$100 donation in thanks for the Art at the Old mill event
 - b. Vice President - Mari Ann offered thanks to members for the support she gets on projects and said she is looking forward to up and coming events,
 - c. Secretary - Carol reminded OCHS of the Oakland County Historical Society \$100 donation to OCHS after the October bus trips.
 - d. Treasurer - Scott – no further report
9. **Trustee Reports**

Kathy G. reported that she and Mary K had taken down Halloween decorations and begun to put up Christmas decorations.

Kathy T.- absent

Ken - absent

Sandy said that she had nothing to report except to say she missed being here on Saturday because of a reaction to a shingles shot.

10. Project Reports

- a. Furnace - Alan reported that he had overall good news about the furnace. We were having trouble with the new furnace and it seems that the furnace has been overheating but causes of that have been found. The solution is to get everything away from the furnace. Alan moved an old card table in a position to help focus the heat more.
- b. Donations Records – Computer Entry - Tina reported that she is now up to the year 2019 and has made over `1000 entries. It is going faster now. Her goal remains to have it all done by the first of the year

11. Event Reports – Past

- a. Oct 15, 18 – Oakland Co. Parks Museum Tour - Carol reported that 25 people participated on the Oct 15 trip and 15 on the Oct 18 trip.
- b. October - Romance of Halloween Display - Tina reported that all the Halloween decorations have been taken down and packed away in tubs.
- c. Oct 31 – Halloween - Scott reported that it was fun!

12. Event Reports - Future

- a. Now thru Dec 27 – Season of Holiday Magic -Alan reported that the DDA has this program to attract people to Ortonville – (see details below)
 - Gift Markets
 - ❖ Mistletoe Market in a downtown building, Tinsel & Treasures – this will be at the old Town Hall
 - ❖ OCHS Gift Shop
 - Oakland County GEM Sweepstakes (thru Nov 30) – guests to the town take a photo of themselves at a local business including the Old Mill. We have a frame here now for this project. The top prize is \$1000 from Oakland County and the DDA is also giving prizes. More information can be found at the DDA website.
 - “A Season of Giving” event. There are collection sites for local charities. Alan saw to it that OCHS, which is a non-profit was included for our need of donations of Christmas decorations.
 - Decorate Downtown grant program – Grant of \$100, just like Halloween. OCHS will be taking advantage of this.

- Small Business Saturday (November 29) – doesn't affect us too much but we were given some bags and stickers

b. Nov 15 - Christmas Decoration Day

- Decoration Plan - Tina has the plan for this day. Things have been sorted out and decisions have been made as to what should go where – e.g. angels in the bedroom in the museum. The rest depends on how many people show up on the date. Trees need to be decorated. Christmas treats including cookies and cider will be available. The school will be more of a Santa theme since Santa will be in the school on Dec. 6. Scott added that he has been wanting to put candles in our windows that are battery-operated. It will cost up to \$150.00 . Board members voted and approved after a motion was made by Alan – second by Sandy
- Snacks, Music and Fun! Please come!

c. Dec 5-6 Christmas in Village - see below

- Dec 5 Friday 3pm-7pm- Museum will be open 4 – 7 so we will need members to help
 - ❖ Craft in Mann School 4pm-7pm - BGYA
 - ❖ Hot Chocolate next to creek 3:30 – 5:30 - Senior Center
 - ❖ S'mores at blacksmith pad– 4pm-7pm - Lions Club
 - ❖ Parade on Mill Street – 7pm - Alan
 - ❖ Snacks, Music and Fun! Please come! - All
- Dec 6 Saturday 10am-2pm
 - ❖ Bake/ Craft Sale - Mari Ann, Shauna – members are encouraged to donate craft items for our OCHS craft sale – also we will need items for the bake sale -
 - ❖ Santa in the Mann School-- Mari Ann, Sandy, Alan - photos will be taken and available online as a digital image
 - ❖ Tractor/Horse-drawn hay rides -- Alan is still working on this

d. Jan 3 – Christmas Undecoration Day 10am-2pm

e. Winter Banquet - Scott reported that it would be the second Tuesday in January at 6 PM. He is trying to go for 15th Street Tavern for the event. Each member will pay their own bill. He asked whether the group wanted to do dinner or lunch. Discussion followed and it was decided that the event will be in the evening at 6 PM on January 13.

f. May 2 -Vintage Sale - Sandy, Alan

g. May 16 - SAR – Road to Independence kickoff - Alan

- h. 2026 (date TBD)– Art at the Mill - Alan – we will be doing it again and the organizer is looking at dates

13. Unfinished Business

14. New Business

- a. Annual Insurance Bill – review/approve - Scott reported that the bill will be around \$500 – approval from board for Scott to pay it – Sandy made the motion and Mari Ann the second
- b. Historical Information Requests - Alan reported that he has been getting questions and requests for historical information. Carol E reported she will try to create a list of places to find answers to history questions.

15. Roundtable/Announcements- All – Tom will be meeting with a Brandon teacher regarding a project where students are making an element for the music garden at the library. Sandy met with the new manager of ACE Hardware and she is receptive to helping the cemetery.

16. Adjourn - All - Motion by Scott to adjourn and second by Sandy - approved

Next General Membership Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 9th 6:00pm at the Old Mill Museum