

BERKLEY HISTORICAL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, March 11, 2025

Present: S. Richardson (Chairperson), J. Tong (Vice-Chairperson), D. Carlson (Secretary), S. Hansen, G. Rubright, M.C. Mueller, R. Patterson, S. Patterson, K. Grimm, D. Callihan, J. Harlan, A. Ozanich, City Council Liaison S. Baker

Absent: K.Schmeling, D. Bennoune, S. Patterson, M.C. Mueller

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by S. Richardson at 7:03 pm.
2. **Agenda/Citizen Comments:** S. Richardson called for additions to the agenda. D. Callihan asked that discussion of the Pattengill School historical marker be added. J. Harlan asked that discussion of the scavenger hunt be added. S. Hansen made a motion that the meeting agenda be approved as amended. J. Harlan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously without further discussion. There were no citizen comments made.
3. **City Council Liaison Report:** City Council Liaison Steve Baker reported on a number of items covered at the most recent meeting of City Council on Monday, March 3rd.
 - a. Outgoing Downtown Development Authority head Mike McGuinness was recognized for his service to the city over the last few years with an official proclamation.
 - b. The city's new website at berkley.mi.gov is up and running.
 - c. The analysis of the results of a survey of the city's boards and commissions is ongoing. (Steve is on the sub-committee.)
 - d. Budget details and special land use requests were also considered.
 - e. The next meeting of the Berkley Downtown Development Authority will take place on Wednesday, March 12th. J. Harlan will be attending on behalf of the Historical Committee.
 - f. A city-issued Committees Handbook will soon be released. Issues the handbook will address include:
 - i. Standardization of meeting schedules and meetings required per year.

- ii. Caps on committee and board membership.
- iii. Dealing with quorum problems.
- iv. The next meeting of the sub-committee on developing Boards and Committees regulations will take place on Monday, April 14th. S. Richardson will represent the Historical Committee.

4. November's Minutes: D. Carlson and K. Grimm noted adjustments to the Treasurer's Report in the minutes for our November 12, 2024 meeting. S. Hansen moved that the minutes for the November 12, 2024 meeting of the committee be approved as amended. K. Grimm seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously without further discussion.

5. Prior Meeting's Minutes: S. Richardson called for possible corrections to the minutes for the January 14th, 2025 meeting of the Committee, and also noted the incorrect spellings of Waneda Mathis' name in bullet points #4 and #17. S. Richardson also noted that the phrase "Friends of the Berkley Library" needed to be changed to "Friends of the Berkley Historical Committee" in bullet point #11. Format changes to the typical minutes were also recommended, including the addition of "Old Business" and "New Business" headings, as well as an identification of the recorder and transcriber of the minutes in their final bullet point. D. Carlson stated his intention to make the recommended edits to the prior meeting's minutes and to implement the recommended format changes beginning with the present meeting. Hansen made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 14th, 2025 meeting of the Berkley Historical Committee as amended. D. Callihan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously without further discussion.

6. Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Kyle Grimm reported a prior balance of \$13,846.39. Expenditures and income are enumerated below:

a. Expenditures:	Michigan History Society Membership Renewal.....\$98.00
	<u>Website Domain Name.....\$71.32</u>
	TOTAL \$169.32
b. Income:	Berkley Days Payout.....\$3,378.61
	<u>Museum/Library/City Hall Sales & Donations.....\$220.00</u>
	TOTAL \$3,598.61

\$17,275.68 was reported as the month ending balance.

7. Curator's Report: J.Tong reported on a number of issues:

- a. The new Twelve Mile Road exhibit is now up and its corresponding Facebook post series is accumulating many 'likes.' The upcoming Berkley First Methodist is in the works with A. Ozanich, S. Hansen and Pastor Zach Dunlap assisting. The exhibit will debut at the church on Palm Sunday, April 13th and be moved to the Museum after Easter.
- b. The Museum now has a new computer with a larger hard drive and we will also soon have a cloud storage account that will cost the Committee approximately \$98.00 per year.
- c. A new \$200 negative scanner has been purchased for Museum use.
- d. Andersen Middle School students will visit the Museum in mid-April.
- e. There was also discussion of the possible development of a "Museum patron follow up questionnaire handout" and how the Museum should best follow up on citizen requests for history research.

OLD BUSINESS

- 8. Berkley Days:** J. Tong reported that the Berkley Days Committee is planning a Berkley Days "Fall Festival" scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 18th with hayrides, bobbing for apples, pumpkin carving, a petting zoo, bouncy castles and a beer tent with bands for adults.

There will be no carnival rides. It will be a fenced, one-day event at the same location as recent years: the Community Park field behind the Berkley Community Center at 2300 Robina. G. Rubright recommended that the Historical Committee consider selling pumpkins at the event.

9. **Cemetery Tour:** There was a long discussion about our potential cemetery tour date in light of the Berkley Days Fall Festival announcement. It was also announced that Boo-kley Days will take place on Saturday, October 4th. October 11th or 25th were agreed upon as the best potential dates with the outside possibility of October 18th as an adjunct event to the Fall Festival. J. Harlan volunteered to attend the Berkley Downtown Development Authority's meeting on Wednesday, March 12th and get a sense of the Committee's best Cemetery Tour date placement amongst these options. It was also suggested that the Committee try to have the Cemetery Tour mentioned in Boo-kley Days advertising.
10. **Museum Membership Program:** D. Callihan inquired about possible conflicts the proposed Museum Membership program might have with the city charter. None were cited. R. Patterson reported that our city clerk approved usage of the phrase "Friends of the Berkley Historical Museum" but discouraged usage of the word "member." There was discussion of the possibility of free student memberships. D. Callihan stated that such pricing issues would be ironed out at the next sub-committee meeting and that the program will most likely be ready for launch by our next full Committee meeting.
11. **Pattengill School Historical Marker Unveiling:** D. Callihan reported a state of complete readiness but an inability to get calls back from essential Pattengill staff to set a date. He'll keep trying and hopefully have an unveiling date established by the next meeting.
12. **Mugs:** J. Tong again reported slow but steady sales. New mug ideas were floated. A two image design featuring our well-known 1950s street scene with a matching modern image shot from the same spot emerged as the favorite. D. Carlson volunteered to make the photograph in early May.

- 13. Grant Proposal:** R. Patterson reported no updates. S. Richardson and J. Tong requested copies of the grant proposal.
- 14. Garage Sale:** J. Tong reported no updates to a plan to hold a Museum garage sale. S. Richardson recommended we try to incorporate it with the annual city-wide garage sale. June 21-23 were cited as the usual dates for this event. R. Patterson volunteered to work with the city's park and recreation director to get the Museum included in the event.
- 15. WXYZ Video:** S. Hansen requested that the Committee record its WXYZ "Good Morning, Detroit" video for submission to the station, which was done after the meeting concluded.
- 16. Scavenger Hunt:** J. Harlan asked for Scavenger Hunt sub-committee volunteers. S. Richardson and R. Patterson volunteered. S. Hansen recommended the Museum's time capsule be an item on the hunt list.
- 17. Tabled until Next Meeting:** Museum collection policy, Dale's Radio Temple exhibit work.

NEW BUSINESS

- 18. Gifts to the Museum:** Steve Baker donated a flash drive containing numerous digital images from earlier eras of the museum. J. Tong enumerated two other recent gifts to the Museum:
- a. Karin Lupien-Parish of Berkley donated a Pattengill Elementary hooded sweat jacket from either 2011 or 2012.
 - b. Edie Watson of Berkley donated a collection of cookbooks created by various Berkley organizations of the past.
- D. Carlson stated his intention to send "thank you" notes to the donors. K. Grimm made a motion to accept the gifts. J. Harlan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously without further discussion.

19. Good & Welfare: A 'thank you' card addressed to the Committee from Waneda Mathis was read aloud. S. Richardson thanked the Committee for the bouquet of flowers she recently received.

20. Next Committee Meeting: Tuesday, April 12th at the Museum. The Museum shift sign-up calendar was passed around.

21. Adjournment: S. Hansen made a motion to adjourn the meeting at approximately 8:44 pm. D. Callihan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously without further discussion.

22. Authorship Statement: These minutes were recorded by Berkley Historical Committee Secretary, Dale A. Carlson, and transcribed by him on April 3rd and 4th of 2025.