Call to Order: 7:05pm  
Attendance: Rachel Manela, Kathy Crawford, John MacInnis, Dhara Sanghavi, Tom Alexandris  
Introductions of guests: Dave Carter (Cemetery Restoration), Sue Grifor (Volunteer)  
Approval of Agenda: ALL APPROVED  
Approval of Minutes-September 2017: Tom, 2nd by Dhara  
Communications: NONE

SPECIAL GUEST- Dave Carter  
Discussion of the cemetery restoration  
First was involved through his own genealogical research into his father’s relatives who fought in the Revolutionary War.  
Took some classes in Indiana on how to restore headstones  
City of Rochester was the first one he did, he has done this work for 17 communities  
He started restoring the Novi Cemetery in 2012  
    -most are marble but some are limestone  
    Every stone is carved differently  
Knows of someone in Monroe who can do reengaging  
    Best way is to take a mirror and reflect the sunlight to see what is on the marker  
Kathy Crawford: “What was the most unusual thing you’ve come across in the Novi Cemetery?”  
Dave: The person who did the restoration before him used a lot of concrete  
Kathy Crawford: How can we find graves/headstones that are buried  
Dave: Probe the ground  
Kathy Crawford: How do you go about cleaning the headstones?  
Dave: Water, Nylon brush and you can also add some ammonia. Also, you can use biocide which works overtime to get deep into the porous stone to kill/minimize buildup of lichen  
Putting the stones back together, is a whole other process, once marble begins the sugaring process, it breaks easily. Have to make sure the pieces are clean, score the stones and fit them together with epoxy
Three main reasons headstones break:
Vandalism
Falling Tree limbs
Lawnmowers

Kathy Crawford: Any immediate recommendations?
Dave: The road and deciding where benches should go, thinning of the trees
Kathy Crawford: Do you think the entrance arch is original
Dave: Yes, probably

Discussion about the mapping of the cemetery
Is it adequate?
How much as the city spent so far?

We need to develop a plan for the cemetery
Pathways, park benches, trash receptacles
Fence/scenic overlook for the back of the cemetery
Lights

Need for a ballpark figure of refurbishing cost for the budget
Tom: How much of the cemetery has already been completed?
Dave: About 65% of the restoration has already been refurbished
Rachel: What’s the continuing maintenance cost?
Dave: It will have to be developed

There are about 900 plots/markers/obelisks
We have over 40 veteran markers
Do we have a paupers section in the cemetery?
November Office Hours
Nov. 6th 12-2pm: Rachel Manela
Nov. 20 6-8pm: Dhara Sanghavi

Library Liaison Report, Betty Lang
Program contact, local author
Our website has been updated
No one came for document donation day
Roland Eaton, passed away a few years ago, his daughter came in with materials of his. Betty said the local history room would accept any information related to Novi
Donation through John MacInnis:
Tom Johnson, information about his family and property 1834-1945
Land grant originally from John Quincy Adams
Corner of Novi Rd and 9 mile (straddled Novi Road)

Book for Volunteers
Need to record when we are in the Local History room

Wrap-up
Second Grade at Parkview Community Project Sept. 28
Rachel Manela and Dhara Sanghavi had a good time at the elementary school
Presented to 7 small groups
Talked about family trees, and different historic toys
Potential future projects Always need to be focused on 2nd grade level

Discovering Michigan, A to Z Barbara Vandermolen Sept. 28
Over 30 people in attendance
It was fun and engaging

Tollgate Pumpkin Fest Oct. 8
Kathy Crawford was there in the morning
Rachel Manela was there in the evening
We didn’t have much visibility
Re-emphasized our need for a Banner

Ghost Towns of Michigan Alan Naldrett Oct. 19
Over 30 people in attendance
A great presenter

Michigan Historical Society Workshop Sept. 29
Both Kathy Crawford and Betty Lang took part.
About Doing interviews/Oral Histories

CSX Railroad retaining wall
Council Request regarding Veterans
   Plymouth Community Veterans Memorial Park, Tom
   Predominant method for including people on monuments is either based on town of birth or what is listed on your enlistment papers
   Whatever we decide, that is what we have to stick to for any future cases.
   We cannot proceed with research until the city determines the eligibility requirements

City of Novi 50th Anniversary celebration meeting, Kim Nice
   Kim was absent tonight, she will give her report at the next meeting
   Kim told Kathy Crawford said a new meeting was planned for Nov. 14th and in January they plan on presenting a plan to City Council in early Jan. 2018 and the actual date of the Anniversary is Feb. 24th 1969.
   Thoughts about a formal gala for the beginning of the year (2019)
   Kathy Crawford plans on attending the next meeting

Senior Executive Club Luncheon-Walled Lake Amusement Park, Kathy
   Kathy Crawford will present the Walled Lake Amusement Park presentation in November

HISTORICAL COMMISSION PROGRAMS FOR FALL/SPRING: please note these on your calendar
Flyers are now available that cover all of the 2017/2018 programs.
Stories, Songs and Dances of the Voyageur …Genot Picor  Nov. 9
Thank God for Michigan and its Underground Railroad – Lois Keel  Feb. 8th 7pm
Petticoat Patriots – Michigan Women’s Hall of Fame March 29th 7pm
Detroit and the War of 1812: Border Crossings – Detroit Historical Society April 26th 7pm

DISPLAY CABINET DOWNSTAIRS  Volunteer Sue Grifor, Cabinet MANAGER
   Ideas for new displays
      Next program is not until February.
      Perhaps we could do a display with historic/old toys for Christmas/Holidays
      Perhaps each shelf could be different periods in history
      Something fun
         Yo-yos, pick up sticks, magnets, linkinlogs, legos, army men, dolls, video games,

NEW BUSINESS/Other Business
   Novi City Council presentation/annual report and budget request
   Canopy tent with Historical Commission banner is needed

NEXT MEETING:  NOTE: Wednesday Dec. 6th 7pm
Adjourn: 8:45pm