

Meeting of Sparta Township Historical Commission
Historical Commission Research Center
72 North Union Street Sparta, MI
Monthly Meeting
November 4, 2025

Meeting Called to order at 6:00pm
Pledge of Allegiance

Members of the Commission Present: Jaime Brooks, Doug Pinckney, Robert Cumings, Keith Anderson Roxanne Claxton, Dale Bergman, Jim Tuinstra,
Members of the Commission Absent: JoAnne VanderWerff

Friends of the Commission Present: Larry Carter

Minutes: Motion to Approve the minutes from October 7, 2025 Meeting by Keith Anderson,
Second by Roxanne Claxton, Motion Approved.

Doug P- Yes	Dale B- Yes	Robert C- Yes	vacant	Joanne VW- N/A
Roxanne C – Yes	Keith A – Yes	Jaime B- Yes	Jim T- Yes	

Financial Report: Not available for meeting

Historical Friends Report: Larry Carter gave an update on the purchase of the Sparta Civic Center. Thanks to generous benefactors the Sparta Civic Center is now owned by the Historical Friends. Rentals will still be done for community events and outside events. The Historical Commission will still rent the space used for the Veterans museum. The commission will work with the benefactors on use and remodeling of a space for a general museum. The benefactors are responsible for the cost of interior changes. Currently City Church rents the former nursery school space.

Young Historians Gabe and Ariel will need 50 hours of volunteering to qualify for the scholarship.

Cost share of the 2025 Notable event has increased from \$1,140 to \$1,540. This is due to increasing costs of printing and services. Thank you to Adele Jones, Jayne Heath, JoAnne VanderWerff, and Pinckney services for donations.

Committee Reports:

- Jaime Brooks and Keith Anderson reported on the success of the 2025 Notable event. Approximately 170 people were in attendance.
- Doug Pinckney reported on the winterization of the sprinkler lines. School House sink drain is running slow. Will look with a sink snake.
- Robert Cumings is working on adding location, and when received to artifact tags.

Motion to pursue using a new system of tagging artifacts, and provide examples and a mapping system of the Myer School Museum by December meeting by Robert Cumings, Second by Jim Tuinstra, Motion Approve

Doug P- Yes	Dale B- Yes	Robert C- Yes	/acant	Joanne VW- N/A
Roxanne C – Yes	Keith A – Yes	Jaime B-Yes	Jim T- Yes	

Old Business:

Halloween event at Myer School Museum put on by Sue Blackall had 24 in attendance

Shop Sparta event Friday November 21. 5-8 pm. Historical Commission will not have a float. Research Center will be open with cookies and hot cocoa

New Business:

The Historical Commission would like to meet with architect Robert Andrus at the December meeting regarding Civic Center space.

Motion to have the December 2 Historical Commission meeting at the Sparta Civic Center to start the museum planning process by Robert Cumings, Second by Jim Tuinstra, Motion Approved.

Doug P- Yes	Dale B- Yes	Robert C- Yes	/acant	Joanne VW- N/A
Roxanne C – Yes	Keith A – Yes	Jaime B- Yes	Jim T- Yes	

Motion by Keith Anderson for the Historical Commission Commissioners to purchase magnetic name tags at the approximate cost of \$7.50 each, including adopting a policy for Commissioners to wear at events, Second by Jim Tuinstra, Motion Approved

Doug P- Yes	Dale B- Yes	Robert C- Yes	/acant	Joanne VW- N/A
Roxanne C – Yes	Keith A – Yes	Jaime B- Yes	Jim T- Yes	

Sue Blackall will host a Christmas story event at the Myer School Museum December 13, 2025

Next Meeting will be Tuesday, December 2, 2025, 6:00pm at Sparta Civic Center.

Motion to Adjourn by Keith Anderson, Second by Jim Tuinstra, Motion Approved

Doug P- Yes	Dale B- Yes	Robert C- Yes	/acant	Joanne VW- N/A
Roxanne C – Yes	Keith A – Yes	Jaime B- Yes	Jim T- Yes	

Meeting Adjourned at 8:17pm

Submitted by Jaime Brooks

