

**Tippecanoe County Historical Association
Board of Governors Meeting**

Mission: To Enrich the Lives of Tippecanoe County Residents and Visitors by collecting, preserving, researching, and sharing our unique and diverse history.

**AGENDA
5:15 PM, October 28, 2025
HYBRID MEETING – IN PERSON and ZOOM**

Members of the Board (total: 22 – quorum: 11)

Jeff Schwab – President	Pete Bill	Quentin Robinson
Jeremy Spann – Vice President	Jeff Burnworth	Dave Sattler
Nick Schenkel - Secretary	H. Kory Cooper	Bridget Slack
Lorita Bill – Treasurer	Walt Griffin	John F. Thieme
Rosanne Altstatt	David Hovde	Whitney Walton
Cassandra Apuzzo	Ashima Krishna	Jillian White
Colby Bartlett	Tara Raber	Todd White
Del Bartlett		

Meetings are Hybrid unless otherwise noted. In person at the History Center and available on ZOOM.

Connecting Information for Zoom Meeting

- If you have a computer with a web camera and microphone (most web cams have a microphone built in), connect to the meeting by clicking on the hi-lighted “https://zoom.us/.....” below.
- If you have not previously downloaded Zoom software, you will be prompted to do so in order to connect to the meeting. The software is free.
- If you wish to connect by phone, call in one of the numbers listed below (doesn’t matter which). Once you are connected, you will be asked for your Meeting ID number so you can be placed into the correct meeting. The Meeting ID number is listed below.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89441187805>

Meeting ID: 894 4118 7805

One tap mobile

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Dial by your location

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FUTURE DATES FOR MEETINGS and EVENTS

Executive Committee (agenda setting) – 3:30 P.M. the Thursday before a Board meeting

Board of Governors – Fourth Tuesday of the Month at 5:15 P.M.

- November 18, 2025
- December 16, 2025

AGENDA

- Call to Order
- Minutes from August 26, 2025 Board meeting – *Pages 4-6*
- Officers' Reports and business
 - President
 - Ball Sholty nominations in November
 - Saturday Dec. 6 Holiday Parade Member Open House – November signup
 - Annual meeting to be held February 7 at 2pm at History Center
 - Vice President
 - Board recruitment and nominations
 - Secretary
 - Treasurer – *Pages 7-8*
- Executive Director Report – Claire Eagle – *Page 9*
 - We will be closed on November 27th and 28th for the Thanksgiving holiday
 - The History Center boiler was turned on for the year
 - We received an NCHS grant to install a safety rail in the auditorium
- Battlefield Museum Report – Trey Gorden – *Page 10*
 - Visitor numbers are down a little
 - Battlefield commemoration event is November 1st
- Membership Report – Kelly Lippie – *Page 11*
 - Attended Latino Fest and Holy Trinity Lutheran Community Day
 - Membership sale at the Battlefield History store in December
- Collections Report – Kelly Lippie – *Pages 12-13*
 - Tabletop display at Lafayette Symphony bicentennial concern
 - Feast school day programs
 - Need to vote on deaccession items
- Research Library Report – Lucy Lugo – *Page 14*
 - Lucy Lugo has started as new library coordinator.
 - We thank Amy for all her efforts over the past several years
 - Spring Vale cemetery tour
- Feast of the Hunters' Moon Report – Brooke Sauter – *Pages 15-16*
 - 2025 Feast went well, the weather was close to ideal
 - Lauren Reed did a great job with updating our food booth processes
 - Waiting for the Purdue football schedule to set next year's feast dates
 - Feast volunteer thank you event is December 4th
- Notes from Committees – *Pages 17-20*
 - Need vote on OP restricted account expenditure
- Strategic Plan Groups Status – *Page 21*
- Any Other Business
- *END AGENDA*

Minutes for August 26, 2025
TCHA Board of Governors Meeting
In Person at the History Center and Online via Zoom

Board President Jeff Schwab called the August 26, 2025, meeting of the TCHA Board of Governors to order at 5:17 pm at The History Center, Lafayette.

Governors attending in-person were Jeff Schwab, Jeremy Spann, Lorita Bill, Nick Schenkel, Roseanne Allstatt, Cassandra Apuzzo, Pete Bill, Jeff Burnworth, Del Bartlett, H. Cory Cooper, Walt Griffin, David Hovde, Quentin Robinson, Dave Sattler, Tara Raber, Whitney Walton and Todd White.

Ashima Krishna, Colby Bartlett and Jillian White attended online.

Governors who were not present in person or online were John F. Thieme and Briget Slack.

Executive Director Claire Eagle was present in person; Amy Harbor attended online.

The Minutes of July 22, Board Meeting were presented and approved by voice vote after a correction with a motion and a second from Whitney Walton and Dave Sattler.

President Schwab introduced Tamara Hemmerlein from the Indiana Historical Society who talked with the Board about developing our next TCHA Strategic Plan.

President Schwab noted that the most recent **Strategic Plan Group Reports** (from July) were included with the board minute materials distributed online to all board members.

At 5:50 pm the meeting resumed as President Schwab announced there will not be a September board meeting so that board and staff can concentrate their efforts on preparing for the 2025 Feast of the Hunter's Moon scheduled for early October.

President Schwab announced the Vice President will now be responsible for board recruitment and a prepared form was distributed to board members seeking names and information for possible new board members.

The Vice President reported he would begin the board member recruitment process and asked each board member to return possible board members on the form provided earlier.

The Secretary had nothing additional to report.

The Treasurer presented her Report (see attached), noting that total expenses were running below budget as of July 31 and that net operating income is higher than budgeted for July 31.

Claire Eagle presented the **Executive Director's Report** (see attached). She reported on several topics from administrative matters to program successes; facility concerns and grants and donations.

The Taste of the Past dinners were declared a success from both popularity and income. A donation of \$2,000 was received from the City of West Lafayette for TCHA expenses. THCA's Claire Eagle, and Kelly Eagle along with Nick Schekel and Basil Alstatt attended August 16's OUTfest; good conversations were had and some donations of materials for the TCHA collections were received. The long-awaited Bicentennial book launch for "200 Years of Tippecanoe County: A Community Tells Its Stories" is scheduled for Sunday afternoon, September 7. The Annual appeal letter will be mailed soon.

Trey Gordan, reviewed his written report for the **Battlefield Museum** (see attached), noting visitors have decreased a bit since last month, A part time assistant has been hired to help wit the Feast and part time (back up) staff member for the Battlefield Museum/bookshop has been hired.

Kelly Lippie reported for the **Membership Committee** (see attached). She is recruiting volunteers to help with the Feast Membership Test; one must wear Feast clothing. She noted as well that Feast tickets will be mailed soon to TCHA members as part of members' benefits.

Kelly Lippie reported for the **Collections Department** (see attached), noting that loans of TCHA materials to Duncan Hall and Five Points Fire Station have been renewed. The Bicentennial banners continue to be offered around our community – soon to the YMCA and West Lafayette Intermediate School. Work for Feast school days is proceeding. TCHA will have a staffed booth at Latino Fest on September 13. Historic health records from the Latino health and Wellness Center will be scanned for the TCAH collections. Research on local history questions continues as requests arrive.

Amy Harbor reported for the Library (see attached). She noted the upcoming tour of Spring Vale Cemetery on October 26 and requested board members consider acting as docents during the tour.

Brooke Sauter reviewed the **Feast of the Hunters' Moon Committee** (see attached). She reported planning for the Feast is well underway Two thousand seven hundred (2,700) visitors are expected for the Feast school days. Feast merchandise when on sale recently. More volunteers for the Feast are welcome – please contact Brooke for opportunities.

OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS were reviewed (see attached).

Jeff Schwab reported for the **Development Membership Committee**. The committee is planning a membership event to be offered at the History Center during the annual Greater Lafayette Christmas Parade. He noted too that Brooke Sauter has stepped down as chair of the committee; Kelly Lippe will take up chairperson duties.

Jeff Schwab also reported for the **Facilities Committee**, noting that repair budget continues below the projected budget. A number of topics that included grant income, repairs and upgrades at Arganbright, the History Center, the Battlefield and the Fort were noted. A new cell service tower planned for the Feast parking lot by Verizon will be installed soon once all permits have been approved.

Jeff Schwab reported for the **Historic Markers Committee**. Governor Alstatt continues working with another TCHA volunteer to design an online system to facilitate the recording of Marker database updates.

The new William Digby Historical marker for Greenbush is on order.

Pokémon Go as a Historic Markers contest began August 1 and run into late September. The contest is organized by committee member Basil Alstatt.

Marker verification continues; the committee plans to have the marker database up to date by the end of November.

The **Ouiatenon Preserve Committee had not report; they will meet again later this week.**

Executive Director Claire Eagle reported for the **Program Committee** noting a number of programs planned through December. The committee has decided to refurbish the History on Tour trailer and put back into use for the 2026 Tippecanoe County bicentennial.

Jeff Schwab reported for **the Publications Committee**.

He noted that the Publications Committee will begin on its first project – reissuing the Battlefield booklet noted at our board meeting last month– it has sold over two thousand (2,000) copies in the past ten years.

President Schwab called the Board’s attention to the latest **Strategic Plan Group Reports** from July (please see the attached document). He asked each of the five conveners/group chairs to share the highlights of their reports.

Nick Schenkel reported that Governor David Hovde will speak about the “Tank Scraps” which were a part of late 19th/early 20th century Purdue and West Lafayette History on September 11 at the West Lafayette Public Library. The program is free and open to the public.

There being no further business, Board member Dave Sattler moved adjournment. The Board adjourned at 6:39 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nick Schenkel, TCHA Board Secretary

Treasurer's Report
Lorita Bill
October, 2025

Tippecanoe County Historical Association						
Selected Accounts						
	As of	This Year	This Year	Change from	Last Year	Change from
	10/24/2025	9/30/2025	8/31/2025	Last Month	8/31/2024	Last Year
Operating Bank Accounts						
Petty Cash	568.48	568.48	568.48	-	572.17	(3.69)
First Merchants Checking .01%	212,142.16	51,837.85	36,459.65	15,378.20	96,880.50	(45,042.65)
First Merchants Operating MM 3%	577,913.03	242,913.03	242,254.05	658.98	171,359.91	71,553.12
First Merchants Operating MM 3%- Strategic Plan	25,000.00	25,000.00	25,000.00	-	-	25,000.00
Undeposited Funds	-	750.92	1,592.63	(841.71)	787.38	(36.46)
	815,623.67	321,070.28	305,874.81	15,195.47	269,599.96	51,470.32
Current Obligations & Receivables						
Accounts Payable	(73,468.89)	(61,083.79)	(11,371.94)	(49,711.85)	(50,785.23)	(10,298.56)
Credit Card	(13,046.27)	(7,993.34)	(8,186.59)	193.25	(18,336.40)	10,343.06
Grant Money Advanced	-	(4,725.18)	(42,813.56)	38,088.38	-	(4,725.18)
Bicentennial Book Money	-	-	(25,000.00)	25,000.00	(12,500.00)	12,500.00
	(86,515.16)	(73,802.31)	(87,372.09)	13,569.78	(81,621.63)	7,819.32
Operating Cash Less Current Obligations	729,108.51	247,267.97	218,502.72	28,765.25	187,978.33	59,289.64
Other Restricted and Designated Accounts						
Maintenance Reserve MM 3%	79,054.44	79,054.44	78,859.99	194.45	53,101.27	25,953.17
Ouiatenon Preserve Account 3%	124,627.68	124,767.73	124,597.49	170.24	106,762.57	18,005.16
Feast Rainy Day CD 3.99%	162,596.41	162,596.41	162,064.66	531.75	107,113.55	55,482.86
Total Other Restricted and Designated Accounts	366,278.53	366,418.58	365,522.14	896.44	266,977.39	99,441.19
Total Changes				29,661.69		158,730.83
Investment Accounts	9/30/2025	12/31/2024	Change 2025	Distributions	Addition	Net Gain (Loss)
TCHA Trust	1,719,716.32	1,545,132.64	174,583.68	50,198.43	50,000.00	174,782.11
Wetherill Trust	410,192.08	384,211.77	25,980.31	13,914.33	-	39,894.64
Lafayette Community Foundation	36,391.70	33,950.09	2,441.61	1,438.00	-	3,879.61
Total Investments	2,166,300.10	1,963,294.50	203,005.60	65,550.76	50,000.00	218,556.36
*Investments are updated quarterly						

Tippecanoe County Historical Association			
Budget vs. Actuals: 2025			
	For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2025		
	Actual	Budget	Variance
Income			
Grant Operating	-	-	-
Contributions	85,307.30	79,501.00	5,806.30
Museum Store Sales	38,226.44	29,550.00	8,676.44
Library Revenue	2,091.20	1,940.00	151.20
Membership Dues	20,980.00	23,040.00	(2,060.00)
Programs & Education	76,842.02	63,850.00	12,992.02
Feast Of The Hunters Moon	67,259.76	58,150.00	9,109.76
Total Income	290,706.72	256,031.00	34,675.72
Cost of Goods Sold	19,182.64	13,300.00	5,882.64
Gross Profit	271,524.08	242,731.00	28,793.08
Expenses			
Salaries, Wages & Benefits	182,682.54	186,478.00	(3,795.46)
Administrative Expenses	10,222.55	9,002.00	1,220.55
Contract Services			
Administrative	14,961.27	24,175.00	(9,213.73)
Equipment & Supplies	1,817.02	3,498.00	(1,680.98)
Collections, Exhibits & Library	4,449.59	5,496.00	(1,046.41)
Museum Store Expenses	1,414.61	1,830.00	(415.39)
Insurance and Taxes	15,296.12	15,750.00	(453.88)
Repairs & Maintenance	19,897.62	28,704.00	(8,806.38)
Contractual Services -			
Facilities	3,402.50	3,001.00	401.50
Utilities	31,478.37	33,916.00	(2,437.63)
Membership Expenses	975.99	2,275.00	(1,299.01)
Fundraising Expense	1,071.00	1,500.00	(429.00)
Feast Expenses	63,398.90	83,524.00	(20,125.10)
Programs & Education			
Expense	10,093.28	38,170.00	(28,076.72)
Total Expenses	361,161.36	437,319.00	(76,157.64)
Net Operating Income	(89,637.28)	(194,588.00)	104,950.72
Other Income (Expense)			
Grants - Nonoperating	38,088.38	-	38,088.38
Rents	7,680.00	5,400.00	2,280.00
Other	150.00	-	150.00
Interest	14,145.91	9,000.00	5,145.91
Investment Income			
(distribution only)	65,550.76	66,375.00	(824.24)
Depreciation	(54,180.00)	(54,180.00)	-
Total Other Income (Expense)	71,435.05	26,595.00	44,840.05
Net Income (Before Investment Gains (Losses))	(18,202.23)	(167,993.00)	149,790.77

Executive Director Report
Claire Eagle
October, 2025

Administration

- I have awarded Kelly, Trey and myself 3 comp days for all the extra time worked during and leading up to the Feast.
- The annual evaluation process has begun. Staff have submitted their self-evaluations while I work on mine. I hope to have the process completed in the next two weeks as we continue to work on the budget.
- TCHA sites and administrative offices will be closed Thursday, November 27 and Friday, November 28 for Thanksgiving.

Programs

- The program committee did not meet in October.
- Bicentennial programs have essentially wrapped up with our last walking tour on Sunday at Spring Vale Cemetery.
- Kelly is presenting a program on the joint centennial celebration of Lafayette and Tippecanoe County on November 11.
- We'll also be hosting one last living history event for the year on Saturday, December 13 at Fort Ouiatenon Historic Park.
- The 2026 Annual Meeting has been set for Saturday, February 7 from 2-4 p.m.

Facilities

- The main alert system out at the Feast grounds was installed right before the Feast, but the temporary speakers that will be put up for each Feast did not make it here in time. Marty Webb is working on prepping them and ensuring they are connected to the system before we put them in storage for next year. I will be completing all the grant reporting needed to wrap this project up in the coming weeks.
- The boiler was turned on for the season on Monday.

Grants and Donations

- We received a grant from NCHS totaling \$5,122.95 for the installation of a safety rail on the raised platform seating in the Auditorium.

Upcoming

- I am presenting at the Wabash Area Lifetime Learning Association's lunch program on November 5th about how we've celebrated the Bicentennial of Lafayette.
- I am presenting at The Linda Cohen Trailblazer Series lunch on December 9th about women who shaped our early community.
- We are hosting a member event at the History Center before the Christmas parade on December 6th. We'll have cookies and hot chocolate (and coffee) available for members as well as the bicentennial book and ornaments for sale. Members are invited to stop by to visit and warm up before the parade starts. We'd love to have all of you join us!

**Battlefield Museum Report
Trey Gorden
October, 2025**

- Visitor numbers down a little, but not too bad for the time of year.
- Caitlyn Pettet has come on board as our newest part-time staff member
- Stephanie Elliott returns as Feast Assistant
- Commemoration plans

Today:

Last month, from August 21 through September 20, we had 867 visitors, which was down a bit from the previous month's 932. This month, from September 21 through October 20, we had 1123, which is quite good, though not quite as many folks as last year's exceptional 1185.

We have a new volunteer, Susan Bryant. She will occasionally work on the weekdays, but mostly she'll be helping Laura on the weekends. Come on by and introduce yourself!

Future:

It's almost time for Commemoration! The event is scheduled for November 1st and goes from 9:00 until 4:00. Here's the lineup. I hope to see you all there.

9:00 Tippecanoe Battlefield Museum opens to the public along with cultural and historic interpretation sites.

10:00 Keynote Address: Prof. Christopher J. Young, "Father Black Robe: The Loving Ministry of Benjamin Petit to the Potawatomi, 1837-1839."

11:30 American Legion posting of colors, followed by the laying of a wreath by DuBoise's Company of Spies and Guides.

12:30 Speaker: Dr. Trey Gorden, "Reliving the Battle of Tippecanoe: A Walking Tour of the Tippecanoe Battlefield."

4:00 Event closes

Membership Report
Kelly Lippie
October, 2025

- Newsletter Issue 3 sent out in September. Next one due Dec. 5.
- Member Feast tickets mailed out at the beginning of September. Several new memberships received, likely for Feast tickets.
- Attended Latino Fest and Holy Trinity Lutheran Community Day to promote TCHA and membership.
- Feast Membership Tent/weekend: 7 renewals, 5 new (2 were online), Total=12

Membership Level	Renewal Period	Total as of July 18	Total as of Aug. 8	Total as of October 16
Individual (\$35)	Annual	52	57	57
Senior Individual (\$30)	Annual	86	88	91
Senior Couple (\$40)	Annual	117	120	127
Family (\$50)	Annual	64	70	68
Patron (\$100)	Annual	70	67	61
Sustaining (\$250)	Annual	18	16	17
Benefactor (\$500)	Annual	5	5	6
Treasure (\$1,000)	Annual	4	4	4
Lifetime	Lifetime	28	27	27
Total Memberships		444	454	458

Upcoming

- TCHA Members Christmas Parade Warm up. History Center will be open for members before the Christmas parade on Dec. 6th with hot chocolate and bathrooms for member use.
- Working to schedule Membership-only sale at the History Store for December.

TCHA Collection Department Report
Kelly Lippie
October, 2025

- Incoming loans to Battlefield renewed (musket and riding crop)
- Set up Bicentennial-themed exhibit for book release party.
- Put up World War II posters at the History Center to recognize the 80th anniversary of the end of WWII. These are part of a poster series put out by the National Archives years ago that TCHA got for free.
- Intern Kari finished project to replace labels at the Battlefield museum so they all match. There is still painting to be done, but we will finish that when the museum closes in January.
- Lafayette Symphony will use some TCHA images in their bicentennial concert, and we will have a tabletop display at the concert.
- Bicentennial exhibit panels visited Central Catholic High School, YMCA, and West Lafayette Intermediate School.
- Met with SSA (Student Semiconductor Assoc.) regarding possible partnership for exhibit next year.
- Attended Latino Fest and Holy Trinity Community Fair.
- Gave orientation tour to Urban Matters Lab student.
- Coordinated School Day programs for Feast.
- Several research and image requests processed.

Upcoming

- Bicentennial exhibit panels will go to McCutcheon High School and Centier Bank.
- Presenting Centennial program on November 11.
- New exhibits for the rotating display cases at the History Center and Battlefield to be developed.

BOARD ACTION NEEDED:

Recommended for Deaccession:

Accession #	Description	Source	Reason	Disposal Method
87.230	"Stand By" Magazines 1936- 1938	William L. Knepp, 1987	Out of Scope	Sale
86.089.01	Hygieia chalk box	Roy Brundage, 1986	Out of Scope	Sale

86.089.02	Gillette Razor	Roy Brundage, 1986	Out of Scope, duplicate	Sale
84.020.05	1920s paper Halloween mask	Margaret Webster, 1984	Poor condition	Destruction
87.232	Gauze Bandage Roll	Robert Meacham, 1987	Out of Scope	Sale
87.232	Mexsana Mexican Heat Powder	Robert Meacham, 1987	Out of Scope	Sale
87.232	Gauze Bandage	Robert Meacham, 1987	Out of Scope	Sale
87.232	Walco Indian Beadcraft loom	Robert Meacham, 1987	Out of Scope	Sale
87.232	Blitz Polishing Cloth in box	Robert Meacham, 1987	Out of Scope	Sale

Research Library Report
Lucy Lugo
October, 2025

I started my position as Research Library Coordinator back in September, taking Amy's place. There is a lot to learn, but I'm incredibly grateful for Amy, as she has been the greatest help. I also must thank the library volunteers for being so kind and welcoming. Needless to say, I'm feeling very supported as I transition and settle into the new role.

A Message from Amy:

Thank you to the Board for the opportunity to serve as Library Coordinator for the last several years. I look forward to helping Lucy however I can as I remain a volunteer in the library.

Research Library Updates:

- 35 total researchers were assisted, 15 email/phone calls and 20 in-person visits
 - 9 out of the 20 in-person researchers were TCHA members
- Library volunteers continue to work on various projects, including indexing Tippecanoe Villa cards, Children's Home cards, marriage records, surname cards, and more.
- By the time of this board meeting, our Spring Vale Cemetery Tour will have taken place. We're planning to have eight people signed up to help.

Feast of the Hunters' Moon Report
Brooke Sauter
October, 2025

The 2025 Feast of the Hunters' Moon was another success, with strong attendance, positive participant feedback, and smooth overall operations. Preliminary ticketing numbers from TicketSpice (online ticket sales) show \$133,751 in online sales representing 8,283 tickets sold, with an average order value of \$36.19 and a conversion rate of 28% from targeted emails to previous year ticket holders. Most buyers purchased an average of 2.25 tickets per order. These numbers do not yet include physical ticket sales or gate receipts, which are still being tallied by Joyce Wiegand and from our community ticket outlets.

This year, TicketSpice once again proved to be an excellent system, offering clear data tracking and quick processing. Gate attendants successfully used the tablets/iphones rented from Meeting Tomorrow at check-ins to scan and record tickets, providing valuable insights into crowd flow and entry patterns. We plan to continue refining and streamlining the ticketing process further next year.

Operationally, the event was very strong. Excess food was minimal, roughly less than \$1000~ (estimated) in product "leftover" from the event, compared to over \$30,000 last year, a dramatic improvement thanks to careful planning and adjustments. Several food booths sold out entirely, including turkey legs (which amounted to over \$20,000 in sales alone), sauerkraut stew, and other popular dishes. I want to extend special thanks to Chef Lauren Reed for her outstanding work re-establishing food booth protocols, improving consistency, and mentoring booth leaders. She and I worked hard this year to make this process easier on booths AND TCHA, while planning to make the barrier to entry less severe for future new booths.

Two booths, ham and bean stew and buffalo burgers, did a test drive of taking card payments. Ham and Bean stew said it made up about 40% of their sales. Between the two booths, about \$6,500~ was sold via card. We plan to roll this out to other booths next year.

We do have some remaining items (such as smoked sausage, kielbasa, and apple blossoms) available for purchase at cost if any board member is interested. (Talk with Brooke or Claire for details).

School Days were another major highlight of the season, with smooth coordination, excellent educator feedback, and strong student attendance once again, with 300 participants Thursday for Special Kids Day, and another "sold out" Friday school day with 2,700 participants. Thank you to Kelly for her leadership and dedication in organizing these important educational experiences.

A few unique highlights in 2025: We were also honored to host an unofficial visit from Charlotte Montel, the brand new French Consul General to the Midwest, whose visit showcased the Feast's continued cultural and diplomatic importance both locally and abroad. The Middlesex County Volunteer Fife and Drum Corps, a prestigious national fife and drum corp, joined us this year and added greatly to the atmosphere and authenticity of the event. Hearing from multiple "regular" Fife and Drum corps who attend regularly spoke highly of having MCVFDC in attendance, including multiple stories shared by youth and parents from the local Voyaguer Ancient Fife and Drum Corp (our youth corp), who talked about the mentorship that took place between the two groups, and how encouraging they were of the kids. MCVFDC has told me multiple times, verbally and via email, how much they enjoyed coming to the event all the way from Massachusetts.

As always, a heartfelt thank you to the TCHA staff for their tremendous support before, during, and after the event—taking time away from their regular duties to ensure a successful weekend. Their flexibility and teamwork were invaluable. Especially to Amy Harbor, who shared her time with us despite recent

foot surgery (Props to her solely for navigating the grounds on a scooter!), and leading the West Gate, which is easily our most populated entrance gate of the four we have.

Looking ahead, we'll continue reviewing systems and procedures to build on this year's successes and maintain the Feast's reputation for excellence. The Feast Committee wrap-up meeting will be held November 12, and our Volunteer Thank-You event is scheduled for December 4.

As is becoming the norm, we are once again waiting on indication from Purdue Football relating to their 2026 schedule before we can set a 2026 date. It would be advantageous for the Feast to stay around the second weekend of October, or staying earlier in September. Mississinewa 1812 has claimed the first weekend of October going forward. Fort Massac in Illinois is always the third weekend, and now Colonial Market Days, a more recent event in Lebanon hosted by Samson Historical, is currently the fourth weekend.

Other Committee Reports

October, 2025

Development & Membership Committee

Last meeting held on September 8, 2025

Grants and Sponsorships:

- NCHS grant received for History Center railing
- SIA upped their Feast sponsorship to \$5,000
- Feast Emergency Siren System will be installed soon (last year's NCHS grant)

Annual Appeal

- Has been mailed out, Social Media campaign to follow. There is an online link.
- Committee members to help with follow-up contacts and thank-you notes.
- It will end at the end of the year.
- Follow-up with those who donated last year, but have not yet given this year will be done by Claire after the Feast.

Development Plan Progress

- Is on track

Membership

- Christmas Parade/ Hot Chocolate at the History Center
 - o Hot chocolate, ornaments and books for sale, members only + guest
- Feast Membership Tent prep ongoing
- Feast member tickets will be mailed out Sept. 3
- Membership Newsletter issue 3 mailed out mid- September. Next (& last) of the year due Friday Dec. 5.

No Membership & Development Meeting in October due to Feast. Next meeting Nov. 10.

Annual Meeting: Tentative dates either Jan. 31 or Feb. 7, 2026. Guest speaker suggestions taken and final date may depend on speaker availability.

Facilities Committee

BUDGET

- Repairs and Maintenance budget is \$9161.91 under budget year to date (was \$8392 last month).
- Haven't received a bill yet on ICU preventative maintenance yet.
- Utilities expenses continue to be well below budget (2231.62 this month, \$2164.16 last month). Much of it due to discontinuing one cell phone contract. Electricity costs are above budget due to A/C for hot August) but all other utilities individually are under budget.

GRANTS

- Indiana Humanities is still working under nonexistent federal support. We managed to get \$3000 in funding from them for this year's Feast to support Native American activity just before grants were shut down. Indiana Humanities is discontinuing all grants.
- Subaru Indiana grant request for auditorium railing was denied.
- NCHS (North Central Health Services)

- 2024 grant – Fort emergency notification system. Equipment has arrived but 4 auxiliary sirens that we thought we ordered were not sent, but we also were not billed for them. Can we get them before the Feast? Don't know.
- Marty (from TEMA) will supposedly get main siren installed next week. That should be enough for this year (at least it will be an improvement over no siren)
- 2025 grant – railing for auditorium. The full grant request was submitted. Will get first part of money at the Bravo for the Arts dinner (we have to pay for an 8 person table and must attend this dinner if want the check). Railing will be installed before the Annual Meeting (end of January or first of February 2026).
- Community Foundation.
 - Ceiling tiles and lights for ceiling. Are not going to do window tinting at Arganbright because it is too expensive for someone to professionally come in and do it. Claire is going to get a tinting kit for us to apply to some windows to see how we like it and how easy it is to do a good job with it.

ARGANBRIGHT

- HVAC preventative maintenance was done at the Arganbright and History Center the end of August by ICU Mechanical Company.
- Work-day at Arganbright: Cleaned gutters. They didn't look bad, they have gutter guards so just had to clear off debris on the guards. Roof membrane looks to be in good shape. Cleared off roof debris and small tree growing again in same corner as previously. Ceiling light in the breakroom was replaced with LED. It's bright in there now. Upstairs bathroom repair was more complicated because of age of fixtures. Did some repairs but still need to replace flapper in the toilet tank. Old, rotten palettes behind Arganbright were broken up and put into dumpster. Dumpster company took them away.
- Groundhog. No change.
- Boneyard behind Arganbright. No change. Brush behind Arganbright that was cut down is gone now.
- The terrace needs to be mowed. Looks like they applied a weed killer on the terrace. Everything is dead but needs to be mowed (quite tall). This is going to be done.
- A bat was removed from Arganbright today.

HISTORY CENTER

- Railing – see NCHS Grant information above
- HVAC Preventative Maintenance – see notes above in Arganbright. Boiler will be turned on ... but will wait a while because it has been so warm through September. Claire will call them to turn on the boiler for winter.
- ICU is still going to get us a quote for replacement of the boiler heating system.
- Carpet rippling in auditorium. Miller Carpeting stretched the carpet. Looks better.
- Coffee stains were cleaned by Lorita and Claire before the book launching.
- There were some areas that looked like candle wax on the carpet. Were removed by hand.
- Church contract. Claire received a text message thanking us for fixing the door lock that they said had been stuck. We didn't do anything to the door lock. No luck in getting Will Miller to respond to requests to meet to discuss contract. We are not going to renew a contract if we are unable to meet with Will Miller. We are allowing them to store their stuff in our auditorium, and they are allowing us to use their projector equipment for presentations like we had at the Bicentennial book launch. We are paying \$300/month for cleaning service for HC and Arganbright (they come twice a month). We still think a monthly cleaning fee should be added to the church's rent.

BATTLEFIELD

- Painting day at Battlefield was Wednesday, August 27th. Got the rest of the area in the museum done, but most of the area will need an additional coat of paint because of the

light paint color over darker old paint is showing through. Will do that this winter when the store and museum are shut down. The labels were put back up for now with poster putty so they could be taken down in January to do the additional wall painting.

FORT

- Cell Tower for Feast parking field. Claire says there is still one more zoning approval step to be completed next week. The permanent tower won't likely be put up until next year.
- Wabash Volunteer Fire Department will bring out their hose truck to spray out the floor of the Feast barn.
- Someone left lights on in the Feast barn. Suggests someone was accessing the barn that has a key to the lock. Need to re-key the locks.

OTHER/NEW BUSINESS

- TCHA – History on Tour trailer. Trailer will be evaluated more closely when being used for Feast set up. Will need to assess what needs to be done with damaged outlet on the corner of the trailer.
- Alley Mural campaign. Lighting in our alley will be mounted on the Lahr hotel side. Supposedly will be done sometime "soon".
- City asked if a gate can be put across the alcove off of the alley to prevent encouraging homeless to camp there.
- Last remaining storage unit will be cleared out after the Feast. We are still paying a high monthly rate for the single unit.
- TCHA staff have been unable to connect to the TCHA network and hence the web site from TCHA computers. Kelly can't log into the TCHA website from her own work desk. Doesn't seem to be as much of a problem with computers NOT on the TCHA network. Will move the website to a different server (service provider?) after the Feast.
- NO OCTOBER MEETING due to the Feast set up.

ADDENDUM post meeting

- The drain in the floor across from the men's room at the History Center is backing up and not draining water appropriately. Doesn't seem to be a critical problem (although water backed up and was surrounding the drain some when Claire discovered this). Claire will have someone look at the drain after the Feast.

Historic Markers Committee

William Digby Marker Project:

The new William Digby marker has finally arrived! The original plan was to erect it in the Greenbush Cemetery, but the township trustee feels it's a bit large to go there, so the city is looking for someplace else to put it. The last suggestion I heard was the lawn of the courthouse.

As the committee didn't meet these last two months, there isn't much else to report. Stand by for more information next month.

Ouiatenon Preserve Committee

OP Committee met September 9th

After discussion, the OPI committee decided in favor of requesting TCHA use funds from its restricted OP account to hire Brook Sauter to design interpretive signage for the OP. Content will be created through

collaborative effort of the OP, the TCHA OP Committee, and Brooke. The creation of the actual signs is a separate expense beyond the design. We have one estimate for sign creation from a company in New York and are in the process of obtaining additional estimates from local vendors.

Work on interpretive panels will begin post-feast. Our proposed timeline is to have panels done and in place before the 2026 Feast event.

Program Committee

Publications Committee

**Strategic Plan Group Reports
July 2025**

Strategic Plan Goal 1: TCHA will actively work to improve the stewardship and use of its structures and sites.

Strategic Plan Goal 2: TCHA will increase organizational sustainability by ensuring financial stability and continued financial growth.

Strategic Plan Goal 3: TCHA will continue to be good stewards of Tippecanoe County history by using accepted best practices and standards to care for collections.

Strategic Plan Goal 4: Staff and Volunteer Capacity

Following up on the assignment given at the last Board meeting, we discussed potential questions for the public, based on Goal 4's work so far on staff and volunteer capacity.

1. Volunteer opportunities: does the public know about them? Or, what is the best way to inform the public about them?
2. Arganbright hours: are the current hours sufficient? Would the public benefit from more or different hours?

The challenge is, how to ask these questions effectively. We don't believe a survey would serve the purpose. We want to pose the questions in a way and to an audience that will provide forward-looking answers. At this point we think that consulting with Tamara at the next Board meeting (August 26) might help us address these issues, and formulate strategies

Strategic Plan Goal 5: Board Involvement and Talent

2025 BOARD OF GOVERNORS TERMS (3 Year Terms)

Name	Term Ends (Annual Mtg. Jan/Feb)
Rosanne Alstsatt	December 2026 (January 2027)
Cassandra Apuzzo	December 2026 (January 2027)
Colby Bartlett	December 2026 (January 2027)
Del Bartlett	December 2027 (January 2028)
Lorita Bill	December 2026 (January 2027)
Pete Bill	December 2025 (January 2026)
Jeff Burnworth	December 2026 (January 2027)
H. Kory Cooper	December 2027 (January 2028)
Walt Griffin	December 2025 (January 2026)
David Hovde	December 2025 (January 2026)
Ashima Krishna	December 2027 (January 2028)
Tara Raber	December 2026 (January 2027)
Quentin Robinson	December 2027 (January 2028)
Dave Sattler	December 2026 (January 2027)
Nick Schenkel	December 2027 (January 2028)
Jeff Schwab	December 2027 (January 2028)
Bridget Slack	December 2026 (January 2027)
Jeremy Spann	December 2026 (January 2027)
John Thieme	December 2025 (January 2026)
Whitney Walton	December 2026 (January 2027)
Jillian White	December 2027 (January 2028)
Todd White	December 2027 (January 2028)

2025 OFFICERS OF THE BOARD (1 Year Term, not more than 5 consecutive terms)

Position	Name	First Term Began	Term Number in 2025	Re-election eligibility ends
President	Jeff Schwab	February 2021	5	January 2026
Vice President	Jeremy Spann	February 2025	1	January 2030
Secretary	Nick Schenkel	February 2023	3	January 2028
Treasurer	Lorita Bill	February 2021	5	January 2026

TCHA COMMITTEES – 2025

* indicates Chair or Co-Chair

Standing Committees

Executive Committee

Board President *
Board Vice President

Board Secretary
Chair of the Budget, Finance, and Risk Management
Committee

Board Treasurer

Collections Committee

Kelly Lippie *
Cassie Apuzzo
Del Bartlett
Kory Cooper
Trey Gorden

Amy Harbor
Nick Schenkel
Other Members:
LA Clugh

Rick Conwell
Kevin Cullen
Carolyn O'Connell
Mary Springer

Facilities Committee (formerly the Buildings & Grounds Committee)

Jeff Burnworth *
Walt Griffin *
Colby Bartlett
Lorita Bill

Pete Bill
Ashima Krishna
Kelly Lippie
Jeremy Spann

Other Members:
Kevin Cullen
Bill Young

Finance, Budget, and Risk Management Committee

Lorita Bill*
Claire Eagle
Walt Griffin

Tara Raber
John Thieme
Nick Schenkel

Jeff Schwab
Todd White

Nominating Committee

Jeremy Spann -*
Colby Bartlett

Claire Eagle
Quentin Robinson

Dave Sattler
Jeff Schwab

Other Committees

Development & Membership Committee

Kelly Lippie *
Jeff Burnworth
Tara Raber
Dave Sattler

Jeremy Spann
Jillian White
Todd White

Other Members:
Brooke Sauter
Ronda Walsh Schwab

Feast Committee

Brooke Sauter *
Jeff Schwab *
Aerica Beaver

Mary Fisher
Sam Haughey
Brian Hawn

Lauren Reed
Matt Riebsomer
Jackie Schmidt

Pete Bill
Jeff Burnworth
Kelly Lippie
Jeremy Spann
Other Members:
Mac Bellner
Molly Bellner
Mike Elliott

Erin Hicks
Jeff Hockstra
Mackenzie Kassner
Erika Kvam
Robert Leavitt
Randy Lower
Janine Lowery
Melissa O'Farrell

Sheri Sondgerath
Scott Stembaugh
Andy Wall
Joyce Wiegand
Logan York
Bill Young
Jan Young

Historic Markers Committee

Trey Gorden *
Rosanne Altstatt
Del Bartlett
Bridget Slack

Other Members:
Pam Barnard
Sally Carter
Phyllis Dotson

Jonathan Lipps
Duane Mantick
Linda Swihart

Ouiatenon Preserve Committee

Kory Cooper *
Del Bartlett
David Hovde

Ashima Krishna
Other Members:
Leslie Martin Conwell

Phyllis Dotson
Colby Bartlett (non-voting)

Program Advisory Committee

Claire Eagle *
Cassie Apuzzo
Walt Griffin
Amy Harbor

David Hovde
Quentin Robinson
Bridget Slack
Whitney Walton

Other Members:
Leslie Martin Conwell
Jan Young

Publications Committee

David Hovde *
Jeff Schwab *

Cassie Apuzzo
Rosanne Altstatt

Pete Bill
Trey Gorden

* - The Board President is an ex-officio member of all committees