

**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, July 22, 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

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- +1 305 224 1968 US
- +1 309 205 3325 US
- +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

## **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.

- August 26, 2025
- October 21, 2025
- November 18, 2025
- December 16, 2025

## AGENDA

- Call to Order
- Minutes from June 24, 2025 Board meeting – *Pages 4-6*
- Trust Update from First Merchants
  - Investment Policy Statement – separate file
- Officers' Reports and business
  - President
  - Vice President
  - Secretary
  - Treasurer – *Pages 7-8*
- Executive Director Report – Claire Eagle – *Page 9*
  - Out of office July 30 – August 1 for AMM
  - ICU will take over preventative maintenance on HVAC
  - Met with Lafayette Mayor
- Battlefield Museum Report – Trey Gorden – *Page 10*
  - Attendance continues to match or exceed last year
  - Looking for volunteers to help at the Feast
- Membership Report – Kelly Lippie – *Page 11*
  - Newsletter went out mid June
  - Looking for Feast Membership tent volunteers
  - Looking for any additions to annual appeal mailing list
- Collections Report – Kelly Lippie – *Page 12*
  - Bicentennial panels are out at county fair
  - Met with preservation officer for the Peoria
  - Handling the library while Amy is out
- Notes from Committees – *Pages 13-17*
- Strategic Plan Groups Status – *Pages 18-19*
- Any Other Business
- *END AGENDA*

**Minutes for June 24, 2025**  
**TCHA Board of Governors Meeting**  
**In Person at the History Center and Online via Zoom**

Board President Jeff Schwab called the June 24, 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, Jeff Burnworth, Roseanne Alstatt, Del Bartlett, Pete Bill, H. Kory Cooper, Tara Raber, Quentin Robinson, Dave Sattler, Briget Slack, and Todd White.

Cassandra Apuzzo and David Hovde attended online.

Governors who were not present in-person or online were Colby Bartlet, Walt Griffin, Ashima Krishna, John F. Thieme. Whitney Walton and Jillian White.

Staff members present were Executive Director Claire Eagle, Kelly Lippe and Brooke Sauter; Trey Gorden attended online.

**The Minutes** of the May 20, Board Meeting were presented and approved by voice vote after a motion and a second from Quentin Robinson and Todd White.

**President Schwab** opened a discussion about the Ouiatenon Preserve's Fixx House; the house itself is owned by TCHA..

**The Vice President** had nothing to report.

**The Secretary** had nothing additional to report.

**The Treasurer presented her Report (see attached)**, noting that TCHA continues to have a positive net operating income balance when compared with the actual with the budget as of May 31.

She noted the CD rate for the Feast of the Hunter's Moon funds is 3.9 and the Maintenance Reserve Money Market account is invested at 3%.

Lorita – is it possible to provide a report about the 1825 campaign?

Claire Eagle presented the **Executive Director's Report** (see attached). She reported on a number of topics from holiday closings to program successes and facility concerns.

She reported that the Lafayette Bicentennial celebrations continue to garner large audiences - the TCHA exhibits at the Carousel building at Columbian park brought nearly 870 visitors over Memorial Day weekend as one example.

TCHA received a \$5,000.00 donation of annual support from Tippecanoe County.

Trey Gordan reviewed his written report for the **Battlefield Museum** (see attached), noting visitors have increased since last month, with 1,056 visitors recorded last month.

The Battleground Lion's Club Community Day at the Battlefield was successful with over 100 people visiting the Museum. not counting others who visited the Battleground and park areas.

Ordering materials for the upcoming Feast of the Hunter's Moon continues apace he reported.

Kelly Lippie reported for the **Membership Committee** (see attached). The members' tour at the Ouiatenon Preserve was well attended with 35 members; unfortunately the Saturday tour had to be cancelled because of weather concerns.

TCHA has sixteen new members during May and June. The board discussed the possibility of "student" memberships.

Kelly Lippie reported for the **Collections Department** (see attached), noting many Bicentennial exhibits continue to be offered around our community and noting new acquisitions for the collections.

Urban Matters Lab students are working on new projects covering West Lafayette architecture and utilized TCHA library resources to learn more.

And a new intern, Kari Klem, has started, working on reprinting exhibit labels for Battlefield Museum and reprinting a few of the small display areas there.

She presented 14 (fourteen) physical items that the Collections Committee recommend for de-acquisition. After descriptions of the items by Ms. Lippe, a motion was made by Pete Bill, seconded by David Hovde, and the Board voted to remove those items from the TCHA collections.

There was no written or oral Report from the **Library**.

Brooke Sauter reported for the **Feast of the Hunter's Moon Committee** on planning for the Feast scheduled for October. Ms. Sauter noted applications for the Feast are now being processed and the committee is cleaning up the list of vendors.

Marketing the Feast will include advertising with the EXPONENT at Purdue University this year and Feast tickets will be available for sale in July with merchandise available for sale in August. Other work to prepare for the Feast is ongoing.

**OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS** were reviewed (see attached).

Ms. Sauter reported for the **Development Membership Committee**. The committee is meeting bimonthly (a change from monthly meetings previously). The Annual Appeal Letter has been issued to members. And TCHA continues to sell Lafayette Bicentennial Christmas ornaments.

Mr. Burnworth, chairperson, reported for the **Facilities Committee**, noting that boiler repair quotes are begin solicited and the "rippling" of carpet in the History Center is being investigated.

Claire Eagle reported for the **Historic Markers Committee**. Recent budget cuts at the State's Indiana Historical Bureau have reduced paid staff there to one person. The effect on the State's historical markers program will be experienced in the coming months.

Governor Roseanne Alstatt is working with another TCHA volunteer to design an online system to facilitate the recording of Marker database updates.

The Fairfield Township Trustee is working to purchase the new William Digby Historical marker.

Governor Kory Cooper reported for the **Ouiatenon Preserve Committee** that summer student archeological research digs went well earlier this summer. The public program at the History Center to showcase the dig results was well attended (noted earlier in the Membership Report as well).

Executive Director Claire Eagle reported for the **Program Committee** noting the Committee continues to host Bicentennial themed programs including additional walking tours and the "Selfie Bingo" program.

Jeff Schwab reported for **the Publications Committee**. The committee is meeting on the second Wednesday of each month at 3 pm.

He noted that the Publications Committee is developing standards for reviewing current publications that TCHA owns the rights to publish in order to evaluate what items may fit the TCHA Mission statement and therefore be worth reviewing/revising/republishing.

He also reported the short, printed publication focused on the Tippecanoe Battlefield is in short supply and will need to be reviewed, updated as needed and republished soon.

President Schwab called the Board's attention to the latest **Strategic Plan Group Reports** from June 2025 (please see the attached document). He asked each of the five conveners/group chairs to share the highlights of their reports.

There being no further business, Board member Cassie Apuzzo moved adjournment. The Board adjourned at 6:44 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nick Schenkel, TCHA Board Secretary

**Treasurer's Report**  
**Lorita Bill**  
**July, 2025**

Tippecanoe County Historical Association						
Selected Accounts						
	This Year	Last Month	Change from	Last Year	Change from	
	6/30/2025	5/31/2025	Last Month	6/30/2024	Last Year	
Operating Bank Accounts						
Petty Cash	568.48	568.48	-	572.17	(3.69)	
First Merchants Checking .01%	53,274.43	39,256.48	14,017.95	50,707.98	2,566.45	
First Merchants Operating MM 3%	266,453.98	266,142.90	311.08	259,379.67	7,074.31	
First Merchants Operating MM 3%- Strategic Plan	25,000.00	25,000.00	-	-	25,000.00	
Undeposited Funds	1,430.72	2,033.08	(602.36)	670.24	760.48	
	346,727.61	333,000.94	13,726.67	311,330.06	35,397.55	
Current Obligations & Receivables						
Accounts Payable	(10,001.94)	(5,045.95)	(4,955.99)	(2,620.41)	(7,381.53)	
Credit Card	(2,573.91)	(2,821.18)	247.27	(1,693.64)	(880.27)	
Grant Money Receivable	-	-	-	-	-	
Grant Money Advanced	(42,813.56)	(42,813.56)	-	-	(42,813.56)	
Bicentennial Book Money	(25,000.00)	(25,000.00)	-	(12,500.00)	(12,500.00)	
	(80,389.41)	(75,680.69)	(4,708.72)	(16,814.05)	(63,575.36)	
Operating Cash Less Current Obligations	266,338.20	257,320.25	9,017.95	294,516.01	(28,177.81)	
Other Restricted and Designated Accounts						
Maintenance Reserve MM 3%	78,638.57	78,554.63	83.94	52,681.70	25,956.87	
Ouiatenon Preserve Account 3%	124,781.78	124,962.35	(180.57)	106,209.08	18,572.70	
Feast Rainy Day CD 3.99%	160,971.82	160,445.65	526.17	105,816.17	55,155.65	
Total Other Restricted and Designated Accounts	364,392.17	363,962.63	429.54	264,706.95	99,685.22	
Total Changes			9,447.49		71,507.41	
Investment Accounts	6/30/2025	12/31/2024	Change 2025	Distributions	Addition	Net Gain (Loss)
TCHA Trust	1,661,872.89	1,545,132.64	116,740.25	33,465.62	50,000.00	100,205.87
Wetherill Trust	396,212.87	384,211.77	12,001.10	9,276.22	-	21,277.32
	3/31/2025					
Lafayette Community Foundation	32,519.40	33,950.09	(1,430.69)	1,438.00	-	7.31
Total Investments	2,136,352.16	1,963,294.50	127,310.66	44,179.84	50,000.00	121,490.50
*Investments are updated quarterly						
*We transferred \$50,000 to the TCHA Trust on 4-25-25						
*Feast Rainy Day CD 4.33% was renewed on 5-8-25 at 3.99% for nine months. We also added \$50,000 of new money.						
*We transferred \$25,000 to the Maintenance Reserve MM on 5-8-25						

Tippecanoe County Historical Association				
Budget vs. Actuals: 2025				
	For the Six Months Ended June 30, 2025			
	Actual	Budget	Variance	
Income				
Grant Operating	-	-	-	
Contributions	52,291.92	47,502.00	4,789.92	
Museum Store Sales	16,796.21	18,050.00	(1,253.79)	
Library Revenue	1,553.40	1,280.00	273.40	
Membership Dues	13,055.00	14,220.00	(1,165.00)	
Programs & Education	37,703.02	25,250.00	12,453.02	Sponsorships
Feast Of The Hunters Moon	38,191.00	30,450.00	7,741.00	Sponsorships
Total Income	159,590.55	136,752.00	22,838.55	
Cost of Goods Sold	6,922.57	8,125.00	(1,202.43)	
Gross Profit	152,667.98	128,627.00	24,040.98	
Expenses				
Salaries, Wages & Benefits	121,952.09	122,472.00	(519.91)	
Administrative Expenses	5,519.09	5,870.00	(350.91)	
Contract Services				
Administrative	10,489.82	11,400.00	(910.18)	
Equipment & Supplies	1,481.02	2,348.00	(866.98)	
Collections, Exhibits & Library	2,766.97	3,871.00	(1,104.03)	
Museum Store Expenses	311.23	510.00	(198.77)	
Insurance and Taxes	10,145.87	10,500.00	(354.13)	
Repairs & Maintenance	12,772.43	19,718.00	(6,945.57)	
Contractual Services - Facilities	2,398.48	2,002.00	396.48	
Utilities	20,941.23	23,106.00	(2,164.77)	
Membership Expenses	660.00	1,200.00	(540.00)	
Fundraising Expense	-	-	-	
Feast Expenses	23,289.80	18,824.00	4,465.80	
Programs & Education Expense	7,568.01	9,775.00	(2,206.99)	
Total Expenses	220,296.04	231,596.00	(11,299.96)	
Net Operating Income	(67,628.06)	(102,969.00)	35,340.94	Last Month \$34,236
Other Income (Expense)				
Grants - Nonoperating	-	-	-	
Rents	5,580.00	3,600.00	1,980.00	
Other	150.00	-	150.00	
Interest	9,983.25	6,000.00	3,983.25	
Investment Income (distribution only)	44,179.84	44,750.00	(570.16)	
Depreciation	(36,120.00)	(36,120.00)	-	
Total Other Income (Expense)	23,773.09	18,230.00	5,543.09	
Net Income (Before Investment Gains (Losses))	(43,854.97)	(84,739.00)	40,884.03	



**Executive Director Report**  
**Claire Eagle**  
**July 2025**

**Administration**

- I will be out of the office July 30-August 1 to attend the Association of Midwest Museums conference.
- We're working on hiring an additional part-time employee to work as needed out at the Battlefield. Kaitlyn has been a volunteer for quite a few years. Now that she has turned 18, we are moving forward with officially hiring her to be a back up in the event that Trey and Laura need someone to cover.

**Programs**

- We have limited tickets left to our last two Taste of the Past dinners.
- The Columbian Park Tour was a success. 217 people grabbed maps and visited the first stop (Rush Pavilion). Not everyone made it out to the other stops throughout the park, but the food trucks, music and art vendors were definitely distracting them. Lafayette Parks and Rec were very happy with the tour.
- October-December programs are being scheduled now. We have a set date for the Feast and Commemoration and are working towards scheduling a winter living history program at the Fort and another cemetery tour. Please see the full committee meeting notes for additional information.
- Discussions have begun on how to incorporate the Tippecanoe County Bicentennial into our programming schedule for 2026. Consensus is the most important thing to do is get out in the county.

**Facilities**

- Working on contracting ICU to begin a preventative maintenance schedule on our HVAC at the Arganbright and History Center.
- I met with the owner of All-Star Security at the beginning of the month regarding Arganbright. We talked through the issues and options. He was going to work a quote up and get it to me within a couple of weeks.
- We still have not received the equipment for the alert system out at the Feast grounds. I spoke with our rep and there seems to be a supply chain issue holding things up. She's going to update me as soon as she has any news regarding a ship date.

**Grants and Donations**

- I met with Mayor Roswarski regarding our annual operational support. He believes he is able to provide the full amount we asked for 2025 (\$15,000) and has asked that we go ahead and submit a letter requesting support for 2026. He did share that with the shortfalls caused by SB1; the city might not be able to provide the same amount next year.
- Our letter of intent for this year's NCHS grant cycle was accepted. A full grant proposal is due July 25. We are applying for the railing project in the auditorium.

**Battlefield Museum Report**  
**Trey Gorden**  
**July 2025**

- Visitor numbers still going up.
- Robbie Alford leaving the battlefield

This report was due on Friday the 18<sup>th</sup> this month, so at the time of writing we're a little shy of last month. As of closing on the 18<sup>th</sup>, we'd had exactly **1000** visitors, **56** people shy of last month's **1056**. However, I expect that we'll have at least caught up by the end of the weekend. Last year in June/July we had a still-respectable **963** visitors, so we've already outstripped that number handily.

Some of you will remember that our volunteer, Caitlyn Pettit, graduated from high school at the end of this school year. She's now applied for a part-time position, which would give us greater scheduling flexibility.

If you or anyone you know would like to volunteer to work at the merchandise booths this year, be sure to contact me or Brooke. We're eager to have you join us for all the fun.

**Membership Report**  
**Kelly Lippie**  
**July 2025**

- Newsletter (Issue 2) emailed out mid-June. Next newsletter due early (August 22) so it can be ready by mid-September.
- There will be a Membership Tent at the Feast this year- if you'd like to help out, we will be sending out sign-up requests in August. Only requirement is that you must wear Feast clothing.
- Working with Membership & Development Committee to compile Annual Appeal Mailing list. If you have suggestions for someone to get the mailing, send their name & Address to Kelly ASAP!
- 12 new memberships in June and July (so far).

<b>Membership Level</b>	<b>Renewal Period</b>	<b>Total as of May 12</b>	<b>Total as of June 18</b>	<b>Total as of July 18</b>
Individual (\$35)	Annual	57	58	52
Senior Individual (\$30)	Annual	81	85	86
Senior Couple (\$40)	Annual	116	122	117
Family (\$50)	Annual	57	64	64
Patron (\$100)	Annual	66	70	70
Sustaining (\$250)	Annual	19	17	18
Benefactor (\$500)	Annual	6	6	5
Treasure (\$1,000)	Annual	4	4	4
Lifetime	Lifetime	28	28	28
<b>Total Memberships</b>		<b>434</b>	<b>454</b>	<b>444</b>

## **TCHA Collection Department Report**

**Kelly Lippie**

**July 2025**

- Bicentennial exhibit panels loaned to City Hall and currently at the Tippecanoe County Fair.
- Presented at walking tour at the Columbian Park on July 1.
- Greater Lafayette Magazine is working on a 200 objects of Lafayette issue and has asked TCHA to contribute ideas and items to photograph for the magazine.
- Working on a new display for the Arganbright with crates and boxes for the collection.
- New intern, Kari Klem, has started. She is working on reprinting exhibit labels for Battlefield museum so all labels match and are refreshed. She will also redevelop a few of the small display areas there. So far, exhibit text has been typed and printed, new labels are being fabricated. Will soon be patching holes in the walls and doing some painting (at the Battlefield).
- Picked up exhibit panels, "Threshing the Grain" that were on loan to the Farm at Prophetstown.
- Making some plans for a TCHA presence at OUTfest that might include gathering scans and interviews on site.
- Met with Burgundy Fletcher, Historic Preservation Officer for the Peoria, who was in town to visit Ouiatenon and view the Ouiatenon collection.
- Answered over 25 research requests so far in July including photo requests for Dayton Bicentennial, McElwaine collection scans, family history searches, George Winter and more.
- Volunteer projects include indexing Poor Farm records, indexing marriage records, scanning Grand Army of the Republic ledger, processing YWCA archives, scanning and cataloging slides, and cataloging and photographing artifacts.

Collections Committee did not meet in July due to lack of new materials to consider.

### **Research Library**

- Amy is out until August, so Kelly is working the library for her on Thursdays and Fridays.
- At least 1 researcher in each day (sometimes more).

## Other Committee Reports

### July 2025

#### Development & Membership Committee

#### Facilities Committee

##### FINANCES

- Are still ahead of budgeted allocated for Repairs and Maintenance by \$6870.57 (as of May meeting were ahead of budget by \$2761.22)
- Utilities are also \$2164.77 ahead of allocated budget (as of May meeting were \$1499.94 ahead of budget)
- Mulhaupts charged us for a new wireless alarm panel at the Arganbright that was intended to fix ongoing problems with alarm. Didn't fix the problem. Were told it may not be possible to fix the alarm system in Arganbright due to building itself. Discussion again on switching to another alarm service provider like All-Star Security System (on Main Street, Lafayette). They provided service for Fuel Coffee house and the owner was pleased with their service.

##### GRANTS

- Ongoing concerns with Humanities under current federal government cuts in funding. Claire not in attendance so topic not discussed.
- SIA – grant request for railing for auditorium was denied. Have sent a letter of intent to apply to North Central Health Services (NCHS) and are waiting on approval to submit a grant.
- Community Foundation – intent to apply for NOW grant for lighting upgrades in History Center. Could bundle lights and railing to CF if NCHS does not pan out.
- NCHS – emergency management system. No change from last meeting. Equipment has been ordered, equipment will be delivered to TEMA and they will get it out to the Fort. Did we ever get an updated quote from Marty (TEMA) for cost of installation?

##### ARGANBRIGHT

- ICU will start a maintenance agreement with TCHA in August. They will light boiler in the spring, turn it off in the fall, and do preventative maintenance including air filters. However, **they will not do repair work on the boiler.**
- ICU will submit a quote for A/C air handling replacement and furnace system when they do their first preventative maintenance visit.
- Gutters at Arganbright need to be cleaned out. Will have a “work day” to do that.
- Groundhog still digging. Kelly is concerned it will get into crawlspace under Arganbright (it would have to go quite deep to get under foundation walls). Requested put up blocking screening to keep it from getting into main building if gets into crawlspace.
- Toilet flap in upstairs bathroom at Arganbright needs replacement. Work day assignment. Sink stopper also sticks, but likely can't be replaced because of odd configuration that they don't make anymore.
- Window tinting for Arganbright had a local quote for \$12,000. No other quotes have been gotten from Indianapolis commercial window tinters (not auto window tinters)
- Allen Monuments quoted \$2000 to move large items from backyard boneyard behind Arganbright to other areas around Arganbright. Not a high priority for that price.
- Still have one light at Arganbright breakroom that needs to be replaced. Work day assignment.

## **HISTORY CENTER**

- Safety railing for auditorium grant. See above
- Carpet rippling in middle of auditorium. Committee looked at it. It's loose enough that it could become a potential tripping hazard. Need to proceed on getting carpet re-stretched.
- Multiple coffee stains. Lorita will try to remove with her cleaner. She had good luck with previous spill she cleaned.
- General discussion about church. May need to tack on a monthly cleaning fee to their regular monthly rental fee if are going to have on-going stains and food spill problems on the carpet. Discussion about keeping as renters: Instead of penalizing by raising rental fee in general, tack on a specific fee for a specific problem (cleaning the stains, maintenance of carpet). We get use of church's audiovisual equipment in the auditorium for free. Jeff estimates it would cost over \$1000 to replace that capability (likely more given the type of LCD projector needed). The church produces an income stream of \$600 per month (\$7200 per year) for which we have to expend very little effort (aside from stain cleaning). The cleaning crew that we hired to clean Arganbright and the HC vacuum the auditorium carpet (but they don't clean stains). Concerns about the church indicate the need for better communication between Claire and Dr. Will as head of the church. Dr. Will is a well known and popular person in the community (and past financial contributor to TCHA) and maintaining a good relationship with him is to our advantage. There was general agreement among the committee for maintaining the relationship with the church but perhaps charging a separate fee for monthly cleaning (or other arrangement) after talking to Dr. Will about the problems and concerns.
- City's alley mural beautification project. City not doing anything right now. Concern about placement of lights on HC building would shine into Lahr hotel rooms across the alley. Uncertain about the future of this project.

## **BATTLEFIELD**

- Magna Dry charged \$1683.45 to clean the Battlefield museum and shop carpet
- Intern is in the process of replacing old labels on walls of the walk-through museum.
- TCHA will be painting the interior of Battlefield museum. Trey wants to buy small quantities of paint at a time as opposed to trying to estimate the total need at once and possibly being stuck with leftover buckets of paint. There was discussion of making sure the paint is consistent from batch to batch. Some sources are better than others for matching.
- Blockhouse repairs and CONEX completed May 10.
- Cell tower rezoning request for area in the northwest corner of Adam Sheffee land immediately west of the Feast grounds (where the buses park). The vote on rezoning was to be on 7/16. (update: it passed) Construction would begin immediately and would require laying down gravel in the entrance off South River Road, which would help us when that area gets flooded and muddy. According to the 7/17 Journal and Courier:

"The tower would be built as a 145-foot monopole, Ramirez said, with a 4- or 5-foot lightning rod on top."

The tower would be AT&T who would also work with a company to extend services to other cellular networks. It should be done well before the Feast days.
- Feast trailer is nice. Used it to transport Feast poles and other things. Old trailer will be used only for outdoor storage.

## **Historic Markers Committee**

### **Online Portal Project:**

We discussed priorities for our database and practical matters concerning making the data accessible.

### **William Digby Marker Project:**

The new William Digby marker has been ordered from Sewah. We are awaiting delivery.

### **Pokemon Go Marker Contest:**

Basil Altstatt, our newest committee member, is pretty nearly done organizing the Pokemon Go Historical Markers Contest. The event will begin on August 1<sup>st</sup>, and prizes will be awarded on September 30<sup>th</sup>. While the contest will end on that day, the online infrastructure to play the game will remain usable into the future.

### **Existing Historical Marker Survey:**

Sharron Baker has been burning through these markers at an impressive rate. She has verified 34 markers so far out of a total of 157. Her reports on each marker are extremely detailed, and will be a great help in tracking these markers, maintaining them, and assisting us in interfacing with our community partners.

## **Ouiatenon Preserve Committee**

No new interpretative material to review or discuss. All in attendance were in general agreement that things have not progressed very far. Leslie emphasized getting sign quotes from local companies and agreed to investigate cost of such work from Pyramid.

We also discussed Sewah Studies and Fossil Graphics as makers of outdoor signs and the potential value of checking with the National Park at Vincennes and Prophetstown State Park as these are both examples of outdoor signs uses/makers.

Colby shared information about the Indiana Humanities Historic Preservation Education Grant, which awards up to \$3,000. As every little bit helps Colby plans to apply for this grant for interpretative signage for the overlook.

We also discussed and were all in agreement on the need to seek professional assistance sooner rather than later with this project, and specifically the potential to work with Brooke Sauter. Kory spoke briefly with Brooke who is going to prepare a free mock-up and quote for one sign in time for the committee's August meeting. We won't be meeting in July as Kory will be out of town from July 18<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup>.

## **Program Committee**

Members present: Claire Eagle, David Hovde, Brooke Sauter and Whitney Walton

Other members: Cassie Apuzzo, Leslie Martin Conwell, Walt Griffin, Quentin Robinson and Bridget Slack

1. Previous Program Review
  - a. Thursday, May 15 at 6 p.m. – An Untrammelled Voice: Jack Lillard and The Informer, Lafayette’s Black Newspaper: 16 attendees
  - b. Saturday, May 24-Sunday, June 29 – Selfie Bingo: Bicentennial Edition: 39 bingos submitted
  - c. Saturday, May 24-Monday, May 25 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. – Memorial Day Weekend Bicentennial Celebration: 868 visitors
  - d. Friday, June 6 at 6 p.m. – A Taste of the Past: Dinner on the Monon Rail Line: 42 (sold out)
  - e. Thursday, June 12 from 1 p.m.-4 p.m. – Fort Ouiatenon Excavation Tour: 35 attendees
  - f. Tuesday, June 17 at 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. – Bicentennial Walking Tour: A Photographic History of Downtown: 20 attendees
  - g. Wednesday, June 18 at 6 p.m. – Artifact Show and Tell: Ouiatenon Excavation: 39
  - h. Friday, June 20 at 6 p.m. – A Taste of the Past: Archives: 31 tickets sold
  - i. Saturday, June 21 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. – Fête de St Jean le Baptiste: ~50
  - j. Tuesday, July 1 at 6 p.m. – Bicentennial Walking Tour: Columbian Park: 217
2. Plan for Upcoming Programs
  - a. Saturday, July 26 at 6 p.m. – Taste of the Past: Farm to Table
    - i. Tickets are still on sale! Tara, Tom, Rick, Leslie, Claire, Brooke, Trey, Kyle and Claire will all be on hand for dishwashing and serving.
3. October-December Programs
  - a. We have our usual Q4 program dates relatively set. Feast is October 11-12, Commemoration is November 1 and a winter living history event will take place either the first or second week of December.
  - b. We are still working to set a date for a fall cemetery tour.
  - c. We’d like at least two more programs to add to the schedule.
  - d. We have an August 30<sup>th</sup> deadline.
4. Tippecanoe County Bicentennial
  - a. Discussions have begun on how to incorporate the Tippecanoe County Bicentennial into our programming schedule for 2026. Consensus is the most important thing to do is get out in the county. Discussions will continue at the next committee meeting.
  - b. David proposed working with the Farmers Institute.
5. Bicentennial Walking Tour Series
  - a. South Street walking tour already sold out.

#### **Committee Task List**

- All committee members will continue to brainstorm October-December programs and how to incorporate the bicentennial of Tippecanoe County into our programming for 2026.

#### **Publications Committee**

Publications committee met and agreed to start our first project, a reissuance of the Battlefield booklet which has nearly sold out at the Battlefield



Looking at some other material published by the Indiana Historical Society to see what the copyright restrictions are.

## **Strategic Plan Group Reports July 2025**

### **Wanted by next meeting survey or public meeting questions**

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

At Meeting #2 (June 26, 2025), discussions included planning a public forum for community input, identifying potential strategic partners, and reviewing past board site visits. Members also began outlining a future task force and considered expanding the Facilities Committee's role beyond just maintenance. Claire is revising the strategic planning worksheet for clarity and tracking.

Meeting #3 (July 17, 2025) the committee will focus on reviewing the updated worksheet, discussing notes from site visits, and continuing development of the evaluation framework. The group will further define the public input strategy, explore strategic partnerships, and clarify roles needed for the task force. During this meeting, the committee will focus on defining action steps with due dates.

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

Wednesday, July 16, 2025 – Farmer's Bank and Trust, 639 Main Street Lafayette – 5:30 pm  
Present: Lorita Bill, Tara Raber, Nick Schenkel, and host Todd White, Eric Lin (phone). John Theime was not present.

##### **Discussion:**

Convener Nick Schenkel welcomed committee members, and we began the discussion by noting differences between advertising and donor support for publicity as they can apply to TCHA income.

- The Committee is most interested in expanding donor funded publicity for TCHA programs and experiences

Naming rights for buildings or significant parts of buildings were also discussed.

The committee members discussed ideas for increasing the number of income generators at existing TCHA programs and events.

Taking up the topic of local government donations to TCHA the committee discussed.

Continuing and expanding discussions with the Community Foundation, TAF/NCHS, Visit Lafayette/West Lafayette to learn and then plan how TCHA can work with those community organizations to expand community-based donations.

- Also work with Indiana Department of Tourism, Indiana Humanities, Indiana State Museum and other appropriate regional and state organizations to learn of ways to increase donations to TCHA.

#### **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**

Goal 4 subcommittee circulated a survey to volunteers and staff to collect information on what they do, in what ways their work contributes to the mission of TCHA, if any changes might improve their work, what ideas they might wish to offer toward strategic planning, and if they would like a follow up conversation with a member of the subcommittee.

The deadline for responding and submitting the survey is July 18. Cassie says that 12 surveys have been submitted, and she sent a thank you to those who completed and survey and a friendly reminder about the deadline.

The subcommittee will review the responses and meet on July 28 to discuss and assess the results. We are hopeful that this information will guide the subcommittee in understanding staff and volunteer capacity, and proposing actions for strategic planning.

### **Strategic Plan Goal 5: Board Involvement and Talent**

Scheduled meetings: June 4, June 18, July 9, July 30, August 20 – 2:00 PM – History Center  
Members: Jeff Schwab, Pete Bill, David Hovde, Del Bartlett, Jillian Connors

Meeting 1 (6/5/25) – Goal identification

Meeting 2 (6/18/25) – General strategies for working towards these goals

Meeting 3 (7/9/25) – Prioritizing goals for implementation of specific plans

At the last meeting (Meeting #3) each member listed their priorities for what constituted their top goals and the rationale behind their selection. The goals that collectively surfaced with the highest group priorities were:

- Role 1A - Act as fiscal stewards – general fiscal responsibilities

- Role 1B - Act as fiscal stewards – guard against misappropriations, provide long and short range fiscal planning, provide reasonable oversight that appropriate expertise is sought for fiscal or investment advice

- Role 3 - Recruit, incorporate new Board members and maintain active engagement of existing Board members

- Role 4 - Support TCHA mission to “share our history” by active participation or support of TCHA activities or events that serve this aspect of the mission

- Role 5 - Be ambassadors and advocates for TCHA in the community

The other goals were retained as part of the group’s overall strategic plan, but these goals above will constitute the focus for moving forward to create some realistic executable plans including specific action steps, time lines, resources needed to attain goals, and measurable outcomes to assess attainment of goals. These will all be done at the next meeting (meeting #4) on July 30.

### 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  
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

Quentin Robinson \*  
Dave Sattler \*

Colby Bartlett  
Claire Eagle

Jeff Schwab

#### Other Committees

#### Development & Membership Committee

Brooke Sauter \*  
Jeff Burnworth  
Kory Cooper  
Kelly Lippie

Tara Raber  
Dave Sattler  
Jeremy Spann  
Jillian White

Todd White  
Other Members:  
Ronda Walsh Schwab

#### Feast Committee

Brooke Sauter \*  
Jeff Schwab \*  
Aerica Beaver  
Pete Bill

Mary Fisher  
Sam Haughey  
Brian Hawn  
Erin Hicks

Lauren Reed  
Matt Riebsomer  
Jackie Schmidt  
Sheri Sondgerath

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

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

Scott Stambaugh  
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