

**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, August 26, 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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- +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.

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

AGENDA

- Call to Order
- Minutes from July 22, 2025 Board meeting – *Pages 4-6*
- Indiana Historical Society – Tamara Hemmerlein
- Officers' Reports and business
 - President
 - No September meeting due to Feast activities – Next meeting October 21!!
 - Nominating Committee and board recruitment process
 - Vice President
 - Secretary
 - Treasurer – *Pages 7-8*
- Executive Director Report – Claire Eagle – *Page 9*
 - Taste of the Past Dinner Series was a success
 - Received \$2000 from city of West Lafayette
 - Bicentennial Book Launch is Sunday, September 7
 - Annual appeal to be mailed soon
- Battlefield Museum Report – Trey Gorden – *Page 10*
 - Visitor numbers down a little
 - Hired assistant for the feast and a part time staff for battlefield fill in
 - Feast prep underway
 - Battlefield commemoration to be Saturday, November 1
- Membership Report – Kelly Lippie – *Page 11*
 - Need volunteers to work the Feast membership tent
 - Feast tickets to members to go out soon
- Collections Report – Kelly Lippie – *Page 12*
 - Loans for Duncan Hall and Five Points renewed
 - Bicentennial exhibit set up and activities – panels still in demand
 - Feast school day reservations – Special Needs Day still has openings
 - Booth at Latino Fest on September 13
 - Battlefield is getting repainted and labels updated
 - Set up displays for book launch
- Research Library Report – Amy Harbor – *Page 13*
 - Amy is back from summer vacation
 - Cemetery tour planned for Sunday October 26 from 2-4
 - Halloween dark stories – volunteers wanted
- Feast of the Hunters' Moon Report – Brooke Sauter – *Page 14*
 - Feast is less than 50 days away!
 - School day is already full
 - Working on bus service from Purdue and the 350 lot
 - Will need volunteers to help stuff membership tickets
 - Feast merchandise is on sale
- Notes from Committees – *Pages 15-18*
- Strategic Plan Groups Status – *Pages 19-20*
- Any Other Business
- *END AGENDA*

Minutes for July 22, 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, Lorita Bill, Nick Schenkel, Jeff Burnworth, Pete Bill, Quentin Robinson, Dave Sattler, Whitney Walton and Todd White.

Jeremy Spann and Colby Bartlett attended online.

Governors who were not present in person or online were Roseanne Alstatt, Cassandra Apuzzo, Del Bartlett, H. Cory Cooper, Walt Griffin, David Hovde, Ashima Krishna, Tara Raber, Briget Slack, John F. Thieme. and Jillian White.

Staff members present were Executive Director Claire Eagle, Kelly Lippie and Kari Klem (intern). Trey Gorden attended online.

The Minutes of the June 24, Board Meeting were presented and approved by voice vote after a motion and a second from Quentin Robinson and Dave Sattler.

President Schwab introduced Doug Miltenberger and Greg Hunt from First Merchants Private Wealth Advisors to offer the annual Relationship Review with the TCHA Board. (please see the attached Report from First Merchants).

After the presentation and discussion by board members it was agreed to continue the annual 5% distribution from TCHA funds and to make no changes (*in effect approve*) the Investment Policy Statement as recommended by First Merchants Private Wealth Advisors, as it was also approved at the 2024 board review.

He had no further report.

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 June 30.

She noted as well that income is increased, and expenses decreased compared with the TCHA budget.

The final report on the 1825 special fund-raising campaign showed that \$4,840 (four thousand eight hundred forty dollars) was raised from seventeen donors (six new to TCHA donors), including the match from sponsor Keller Williams Lafayette.

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.

She reported that the Lafayette Bicentennial celebrations continue to garner large audiences, and planning has begun to integrate the County's 200th anniversary into 2026 programing.

TCHA is hopeful its request for Lafayette city support will be provided in 2025 and perhaps in 2026. West Lafayette City confirmed it will provide \$2,000 in support for TCHA in 2025.

All remaining furniture owned by the Masons (previous owners of the History Center building) will be moved out of the History Center July 26.

And finally, and importantly, she announced the TCHA sponsored “200 Years of Tippecanoe County: A Community Tells Its Stories” book launch party is scheduled for September 7. A private invitation only reception will be from 5:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m. with a public program to follow. Digital invitations will be going out soon.

EC Eagle reported for Trey Gordan, reviewing his written report for the **Battlefield Museum** (see attached), noting visitors have increased since last month, with 1,000 visitors recorded last month.

Volunteers for the Feast TCHA merchandise booths are being recruited now.

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.

The Annual Appeal mailing list is being compiled; please send suggestions to Kelly ASAP.

TCHA has twelve new members during June and July.

Kelly Lippie reported for the **Collections Department** (see attached), noting that many Bicentennial exhibits continue to be offered around our community – including City Hall and the Tippecanoe County Fair.

She worked this past month with Greater Lafayette Magazine, the Farm at Prophetstown, the Historic Preservation Officer for Peoria Illinois and handling research requests at the Library (Amy Harbor is on vacation).

TCHA’s new intern, Kari Klem, attended the board meeting and spoke about her work reprinting exhibit labels for Battlefield Museum and reprinting a few of the small display areas there.

The Collections Committee did not meet in July and so had no report of acquisitions or recommended removal of items.

There was no written report from the **Feast of the Hunters’ Moon Committee**.

OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS were reviewed (see attached).

ED Eagle 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.

Mr. Burnworth, chairperson, reported for the **Facilities Committee**, noting that repair budget continues below the projected budget. He reported as well that TCHA is working with All Star Security to discuss alarm service for Arganbright’s building.

ICU (Lafayette based) will provide maintenance service for the History Center boiler but will not provide boiler repairs.

TCHA’s grant for purchasing and installing a railing in the History Center auditorium was not funded by SIA. Grants are being developed for NCHS (auditorium railing) and the Community Foundation (lighting upgrades at the History Center).

Several other maintenance activities at the History Center, the Battlefield and Arganbright were reported; zoning for the cell tower to be constructed at the Feast grounds was approved but construction is on hold while necessary materials are on order.

Claire Eagle 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 will begin August 1 and run into late September. The contest is organized by committee member Basil Alstatt.

TCHA member Linda Swihart has taken the lead on marker verification; she has found and cataloged thirty-four of one hundred fifty-seven markers to date.

Jeff Schwab reported for the **Ouiatenon Preserve Committee**. No new interpretive materials have been received though planning for signs continues. Various means to develop markets are reported to have been discussed including the need for seeking professional assistance with interpretive signage sooner rather than later.

Executive Director Claire Eagle reported for the **Program Committee** noting great attendance at TCHA programs so far this year.

The Committee continues to host Bicentennial themed programs which are listed in the written report.

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 nearly sold out at the Battlefield Museum.

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.

There being no further business, Board member Whitney Walton moved adjournment. The Board adjourned at 6:40 pm.

Treasurer's Report
Lorita Bill
August, 2025

Tippecanoe County Historical Association						
Selected Accounts						
	This Year	Last Month	Change from	Last Year	Change from	
	7/31/2025	6/30/2025	Last Month	7/31/2024	Last Year	
Operating Bank Accounts						
Petty Cash	568.48	568.48	-	572.17	(3.69)	
First Merchants Checking .01%	32,625.35	53,274.43	(20,649.08)	30,707.21	1,918.14	
First Merchants Operating MM 3%	266,775.78	266,453.98	321.80	260,073.90	6,701.88	
First Merchants Operating MM 3%- Strategic Plan	25,000.00	25,000.00	-	-	25,000.00	
Undeposited Funds	431.28	1,776.80	(1,345.52)	636.00	(204.72)	
	325,400.89	347,073.69	(21,672.80)	291,989.28	33,411.61	
Current Obligations & Receivables						
Accounts Payable	(5,060.92)	(10,023.03)	4,962.11	(6,820.79)	1,759.87	
Credit Card	(2,279.40)	(2,643.91)	364.51	(4,617.72)	2,338.32	
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)	
	(75,153.88)	(80,480.50)	5,326.62	(23,938.51)	(51,215.37)	
Operating Cash Less Current Obligations	250,247.01	266,593.19	(16,346.18)	268,050.77	(17,803.76)	
Other Restricted and Designated Accounts						
Maintenance Reserve MM 3%	78,725.40	78,638.57	86.83	52,822.70	25,902.70	
Ouiatenon Preserve Account 3%	124,619.93	124,781.78	(161.85)	106,392.64	18,227.29	
Feast Rainy Day CD 3.99%	161,517.32	160,971.82	545.50	106,288.17	55,229.15	
Total Other Restricted and Designated Accounts	364,862.65	364,392.17	470.48	265,503.51	99,359.14	
Total Changes			(15,875.70)		81,555.38	
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
Lafayette Community Foundation	34,353.93	33,950.09	403.84	1,438.00	-	1,841.84
Total Investments	2,092,439.69	1,963,294.50	129,145.19	44,179.84	50,000.00	123,325.03
*Investments are updated quarterly						

Budget vs. Actuals: 2025				
	For the Seven Months Ended July 31, 2025			
	Actual	Budget	Variance	
Income				
Grant Operating	-	-	-	
Contributions	55,947.56	54,085.00	1,862.56	
Museum Store Sales	22,295.06	22,050.00	245.06	
Library Revenue	1,658.20	1,500.00	158.20	
Membership Dues	14,750.00	17,220.00	(2,470.00)	
Programs & Education	43,216.02	30,950.00	12,266.02	
Feast Of The Hunters Moon	44,059.61	33,150.00	10,909.61	
Total Income	181,926.45	158,955.00	22,971.45	
Cost of Goods Sold	9,209.10	9,925.00	(715.90)	
Gross Profit	172,717.35	149,030.00	23,687.35	
Expenses				
Salaries, Wages & Benefits	142,778.93	144,098.00	(1,319.07)	
Administrative Expenses	6,231.62	6,765.00	(533.38)	
Contract Services				
Administrative	11,963.32	13,325.00	(1,361.68)	
Equipment & Supplies	1,689.07	2,681.00	(991.93)	
Collections, Exhibits & Library	3,963.65	4,412.00	(448.35)	
Museum Store Expenses	318.03	700.00	(381.97)	
Insurance and Taxes	11,862.62	12,250.00	(387.38)	
Repairs & Maintenance	13,887.43	22,280.00	(8,392.57)	
Contractual Services - Facilities	2,596.18	2,335.00	261.18	
Utilities	24,667.84	26,832.00	(2,164.16)	
Membership Expenses	660.00	1,850.00	(1,190.00)	
Fundraising Expense	-	1,500.00	(1,500.00)	
Feast Expenses	33,537.47	27,419.00	6,118.47	
Programs & Education Expense	9,035.11	12,040.00	(3,004.89)	
Total Expenses	263,191.27	278,487.00	(15,295.73)	
Net Operating Income	(90,473.92)	(129,457.00)	38,983.08	Last Month \$35,341
Other Income (Expense)				
Grants - Nonoperating	-	-	-	
Rents	6,180.00	4,200.00	1,980.00	
Other	150.00	-	150.00	
Interest	9,983.25	7,000.00	2,983.25	
Investment Income (distribution only)	44,179.84	44,750.00	(570.16)	
Depreciation	(42,140.00)	(42,140.00)	-	
Total Other Income (Expense)	18,353.09	13,810.00	4,543.09	
Net Income (Before Investment Gains (Losses))	(72,120.83)	(115,647.00)	43,526.17	

**Executive Director Report
Claire Eagle
August, 2025**

Administration

- Caitlyn Pettet has been hired as an additional part-time employee at the Battlefield. She will act as a backup for Trey and Laura as well as work during special events and programs, like Commemoration, where additional help is needed.

Programs

- Our last Taste of the Past dinner was a great success. Planning has already begun for next year's season.
- October-December programs are being finalized. Please see the full committee meeting notes for additional information.
- Kelly and I attended OUTFest on Saturday, August 16. We were joined by Nick and Basil at the booth. We had some great conversations and had several items donated to help preserve queer history in Lafayette.

Facilities

- The equipment for the alert system out at the Feast grounds has been delivered, but we're not sure if it will be installed before this year's Feast.
- The carpet in the Auditorium of the History Center was stretched yesterday after a few ripples had formed over the last couple of months.

Grants and Donations

- City of West Lafayette has agreed to a \$2000 donation to support our operations for this year.

Upcoming

- Our Bicentennial Book Launch is Sunday, September 7 at the History Center. A private invitation only reception will be held at 5:30 p.m. with a public program beginning at 7 p.m.
- The annual appeal will be mailed out any day now.
- Commemoration is scheduled for Saturday, November 1 at the Battlefield.
- Will be attending the September meeting of 100+ Women Who Care through the Community Foundation of Greater Lafayette as a guest of Lois Maickel.

**Battlefield Museum Report
Trey Gorden
August, 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:

From July 21 through August 20, we had 932 visitors, 138 people fewer than last month's 1070. We expect to see a little bit of a fall-off as the school year kicks off, though in July/August of last year we had a very respectable 1065 visitors.

We have interviewed Caitlyn Pettet for the position of part-time backup, and we've decided to hire her! She's been a volunteer at the battlefield since she was 12, and now she's starting college. Caitlyn will be helping us out as a backup, mostly for weekends and special events when we expect to be particularly busy. If you see Caitlyn, please say hello and help us make her feel welcome as a member of our staff.

Future:

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.

We're lucky to have Stephanie Elliott return this year as my feast assistant. She'll be starting on Tuesday the 26th of August. She brings not only energy and intelligence to the role, but now a year's experience to draw on. Welcome back, Stephanie!

In spite of ongoing Feast prep, we're planning for Commemoration, too. We're honored to have professor Christopher Young, of Indiana University Northwest, deliver our keynote address. He'll be talking about his ongoing research into father Benjamin Petit, the priest who accompanied the Yellow River Potawatomi on the trail of death, when those people endured their cruel and deadly forced march from Indiana to Kansas. We're very much looking forward to this year's commemoration.

Membership Report
Kelly Lippie
August, 2025

- Annual Appeal mailing list is ready, should be mailed out any minute.
- Next Member newsletter due Aug. 22.

Membership Level	Renewal Period	Total as of June 18	Total as of July 18	Total as of Aug. 8
Individual (\$35)	Annual	58	52	57
Senior Individual (\$30)	Annual	85	86	88
Senior Couple (\$40)	Annual	122	117	120
Family (\$50)	Annual	64	64	70
Patron (\$100)	Annual	70	70	67
Sustaining (\$250)	Annual	17	18	16
Benefactor (\$500)	Annual	6	5	5
Treasure (\$1,000)	Annual	4	4	4
Lifetime	Lifetime	28	28	27
Total Memberships		454	444	454

Upcoming

- Sign up to work at the Membership Tent at the Feast! Contact Kelly to rsvp your time on Saturday or Sunday.
- Member Feast tickets will be sent out the week after Labor Day.

TCHA Collection Department Report

Kelly Lippie

August, 2025

- Met with Director of Latino Health and Wellness Center and received their historic records to scan.
- Took a few Evaleen Stein items to Haan Mansion for a 2 hour presentation by Angie Klink.
- Started working on patching walls and painting at Battlefield. Also started putting up new labels.
- TCHA attended OUTFest that might include gathering scans and interviews on site.
- Outgoing loans renewed at Duncan Hall and Five Points Fire Station Museum.
- Met with Purdue Anthro student to look at Ouataton Collection for upcoming project.
- Set up exhibit for Bicentennial-themed Taste of the Past dinner. Also used much of the exhibit for Bicentennial book preview program.
- Bicentennial exhibit panels visited First Farmers on Main Street, University Place, and Central Catholic High School.
- Started taking Feast School Day reservations on August 1, Friday School Day reached capacity by August 15th. Special Kids Day not yet full.
- Continued to cover library until Amy returned at the beginning of August.

Upcoming

- TCHA will have a booth at Latino Fest on September 13th
- Battlefield painting, part 2 will take place Wednesday August 27th. Kari finishes internship at the end of September, so all new Battlefield labels will be up by then.
- Set up displays in the History Center for the Bicentennial book launch.
- Bicentennial exhibit panels will go to YMCA and West Lafayette Intermediate school.
- Incoming loan renewals will be processed: Loans that are currently on exhibit at the Battlefield are a buggy whip from the 1840 campaign and a rifle.

Research Library Report
Amy Harbor
August, 2025

I've recently returned from a month and a half away, and everything is running smoothly as expected. Kelly always takes good care of the library and volunteers.

TCHA is planning a cemetery tour at Spring Vale on Sunday October 26 from 2 to 4 pm. Because this is near Halloween, we're planning to tell some dark stories related to burials in the cemetery - murders, tragic/grisly accidental deaths, ghosts and other dark stories. I would dearly love the help of the Board in telling some stories and/or attending the event. Please contact me for more information.

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

The Feast is now less than 50 days away!

Planning is steadily on track. The Feast Committee met this past Wednesday. Highlights include:

- The final participant deadline passed August 15
- Modern camping is full
- Friday School Day attendance is also full, with 2,700 visitors scheduled to join us for the day
- Conversations continue with bus service providers both in regard to the Purdue-to-Fort shuttle, as well as the shuttle service from the 350 lot to the Fort.
- We can use hands helping to pack membership Complimentary tickets as well as Feast participants packets coming up in the next couple of weeks. Please email Brooke if you are available to help. She is currently coordinating a date with the M&D committee as well as a few volunteers who have already expressed interest in assisting.
- Feast merch went on sale publicly on Friday. A digital presale will run through Sept 21. Additional items will arrive Oct 1 to be sold at the Feast itself. Link to purchase:
 - <http://unitedstateofindiana.com/tcha>

Other Committee Reports

August. 2025

Development & Membership Committee

- Brooke is stepping down as M&D chair, Kelly is assuming responsibilities.
- Annual Appeal is at National Group and should be hitting mailboxes anyday now.
- Feast tickets have arrived, and we would love help stuffing tickets. Date forthcoming, please email Brooke or Kelly if you are able to assist and we will compare calendars.
- We discussed participating in the Lafayette Christmas parade. This year it falls on December 6. The theme is Past, Present, Future. Here is more info: <https://www.homeofpurdue.com/events/annual-events-and-festivals/christmas-parade/>
- We discussed having the History Center open and doing hot cocoa for visitors/members. Another option is participating in the parade itself. Please share thoughts on which option we should pursue.
- Once we come up with a general consensus for the event, we will coordinate a Sign Up Genius with details, shift info, and more.

Facilities Committee

BUDGET

- Repairs and Maintenance budget is \$8392 under budget year to date. The TCHA truck is getting a thorough cleaning and detailing of interior (much needed) for \$175.
- Contractual Services for Facilities (security, equipment service, etc.) are \$261.16 over budget (total budget is \$2335).
- Utilities expenses continue to be well below budget (\$2164.16) much of it due to discontinuing one cell phone contract. Electricity costs are above budget (due to A/C for hot July and August) but all other utilities individually are under budget.

GRANTS

- Indiana Humanities is working under nonexistent federal support. They have supported TCHA bringing in native peoples to the Feast for the past few years. 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 has let go half of their staff and is discontinuing all grants.
- Subaru Indiana grant request for auditorium railing was denied.
- NCHS (North Central Health Services)
 - 2024 grant – Fort emergency notification system. Marty (from TEMA) is working on installing the system. Equipment was shipped and most (all?) of it is at the TEMA warehouse. Need to set a new pole on the Feast grounds and contractor has been identified to do so. Will happen sometime before the Feast. A report to NCHS (through TAF as agent for NCHS) is due September 1st and that will be before installation of the granted equipment. NCHS has been notified of the delay and reason for the delay. An exemption has been granted for the report deadline.
 - 2025 grant – railing for auditorium. A notice of intent was filed, and the full grant request was submitted. Should hear by end of month.
- Community Foundation. We will use CF as a backup for the railing if NCHS grant is not accepted. An update to CF on the grant for HVAC and lights for the History Center is due at the end of the month.

ARGANBRIGHT

- HVAC preventative maintenance at the Arganbright and History Center will be performed the end of August by ICU Mechanical Company (instead of Blue Fox). The filters for the HVAC system will be changed during this process.
- Gutter Cleaning. Still needs to be done. Will be scheduled on a work day. Is there a ladder tall enough to get to the top of the second floor? Could use a second regular sized ladder to go from the roof of the first floor to the roof of the second.
- Groundhog. Will fill in hole on a workday.
- Upstairs bathroom fixture and light. Workday fix.
- Workday to be scheduled: August 25, 26, or 27. August 27th is second day of painting at Battlefield.
- Window tinting quotes. Not much progress made on this. Claire is going to try some local sources Jeff Burnworth provided (previously had been given sources in Indianapolis).
- Boneyard Quote. \$2000 quoted for moving materials from behind Arganbright to side yard. Jeff B. thinks we can move some of the items with equipment we rent on our own.
- Final light at Arganbright still needs to be replaced in breakroom.
- Arganbright security system continues to have problems. All Star Security did an assessment and said they could not assure that any system they put in would perform any better than Mulhaupt's system due to the layout of the building itself. There was some speculation that humidity may be affecting the electronics of the system.

HISTORY CENTER

- Railing – see NCHS Grant information above
- HVAC Preventative Maintenance – see notes above in Arganbright. PM to start in August will take care of lighting and turning off boiler at History Center.
- Carpet rippling in auditorium. On Monday, August 25th Miller Carpeting will be out to restretch the carpet.
- Spot cleaning of auditorium carpet. Lorita and Claire will do.
- Church complaints. Claire got a call from Church on Sunday that the key they used to lock the door to the HC was stuck in the lock and they couldn't get it out. They were going to leave the key in the door. Eventually they called back and said they got the key out. Claire says the primary contact with the Church is not very pleasant to deal with. Claire says she is shunted to this contact any time she tries to contact Dr. Will Miller, the head of the church. Claire was advised to contact Dr. Will specifically about his assistant and problems we've been having with her and also about increasing the current monthly fee of \$600 (this has been the rate since COVID). Claire was directed to Dr. Will's web site as a means to contact him if need be.

BATTLEFIELD

- Painting was done earlier this week (8/13). Had five people working (Kelly, intern, Jeremy, Pete, and Trey). Got about halfway through the hallway of the museum. What takes time is prepping the area for painting (e.g., removal of wall items, taping around objects that can't be removed from walls, getting drop cloths placed, etc.). Next painting day will be Wednesday, August 27th starting at 10:00 AM. Kelly may organize a day before the 27th to prep the painting area so painting day can focus on just painting.
- Some consideration about replacing track lighting in museum area. Much of it is old, weak lighting. Bulbs are out in some places. Replacing bulbs with LEDs would reduce electricity consumption and avoid having to change bulbs so often.

FORT

- Cell Tower for Feast parking field. Claire says there is one more zoning approval step to be completed. Tower will be Verizon, not AT&T. Supposedly a new AT&T tower went in by the

Purdue airport. Verizon will provide the Feast with a mobile “tower” for the Feast. The permanent tower won’t likely be put up until next year.

- Feast truck (TCHA truck) had oil changed and is getting interior detailed (cleaned). Hasn’t been thoroughly cleaned probably since 2017 or 2018. French fries probably date back to when DJ had been employed as membership director under Craig Hadley.

OTHER/NEW BUSINESS

- TCHA – History on Tour trailer. Needs to be updated for use in 2026 for County bicentennial celebration. Needs new wrap to replace current peeling one. QR codes on the current wrap are invalid and need to be replaced. Dent in the side right at the electrical outlet plug. Jeff B. thinks it can be easily replaced without requiring trailer repair service. Claire thinks she might have a sponsor for updating the trailer. History on Tour Campaign to use the trailer will not be launched until spring 2026.
- Alley Mural campaign. Apparently lighting and mural planning is done. Lighting in our alley will be mounted on the Lahr hotel side so won’t require electrical from the History Center. TCHA is listed on the building permit for the electricity in case electrical is needed from the History Center for some reason.

Historic Markers Committee

William Digby Marker Project:

The new William Digby marker has been ordered from Sewah. We continue to await delivery. Mónica Cassanova, the Fairfield Township trustee who ordered the monument, has said that she’s having some frustrations communicating with Sewah.

Pokemon Go Marker Contest:

Our Pokemon Go Historical Markers Contest began on August 1st and will conclude with the awarding of prizes on September 30th. 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:

The committee continues to make progress on our survey, and we expect to have everything up to date before the end of November.

Ouiatenon Preserve Committee

Program Committee

Members present: Cassis Apuzzo, Claire Eagle, Walt Griffin, Amy Harbor, Bridget Slack and Whitney Walton

Other members: David Hovde, Quentin Robinson and Brooke Sauter

1. Committee Task List Review
 - All committee members will continue to brainstorm October-December programs and how to incorporate the bicentennial of Tippecanoe County into our programming for 2026.
2. Previous Program Review
 - a. Saturday, July 26 at 6 p.m. – Taste of the Past: Farm to Table
 - i. The dinner went well. We sold 32 tickets. Everyone seemed to enjoy it.

3. Plan for Upcoming Programs
 - a. Tuesday, August 12 at 6 p.m. – Show and Tell Speed Rounds: Bicentennial Book Authors
 - i. Authors are confirmed. Kelly will be setting up a small exhibit to accompany the program of TCHA collection pieces that were photographed for the book. The exhibit will also be used for the last Taste of the Past dinner and the book launch.
 - b. Friday, August 15 at 6 p.m. – Taste of the Past: Bicentennial
 - i. Sold out! Volunteers have been sent the reminder and set up has started.
4. October-December Programs
 - a. Tentative Schedule:
 - i. October 11-12: Feast of the Hunters' Moon
 - ii. Sunday, October 26 from 2-4 p.m. – Spring Vale Cemetery Tour
 - iii. Saturday, November 1 from 9a.m.-5 p.m. – Battle of Tippecanoe Commemoration
 - iv. Saturday, December 6 – Members Only Winter event during Christmas Parade
 - v. TBD – Centennial program with Kelly
 - vi. TBD – Winter living history event at the Fort.
 - b. Claire is working to confirm dates/times for the centennial lecture and winter living history event.
 - c. Amy will work on setting a theme and getting volunteers for the cemetery tour
 - d. Trey and Claire are finalizing the schedule for Commemoration.
5. Tippecanoe County Bicentennial
 - a. A decision has been made to use the History on Tour trailer as our signature program for the county's bicentennial in 2026. We plan to bring the trailer with a new exhibition around the county throughout the year making stops at schools, libraries and important community events. The program committee is tasked with coming up with an accompanying program. The tentative plan is some kind of passport program. The committee will continue to brainstorm and pick back up on the conversation at the next meeting.
6. Other Business
 - a. Walt brought the idea to host a national military vehicle preservation association event in 2027. They are looking for a host site in Indiana. He is going to speak to the association and representatives of the Indiana Military Vehicle Preservation Association and work on scheduling a meeting to discuss.

Committee Task List

- Amy will begin to put a calendar together of all the community events that we could bring the History on Tour Trailer to in 2026
- All committee members will continue to think about how to structure the possible passport program.
- Claire and Brooke will work on getting the Q4 program brochure completed.

Publications Committee

Work continues on getting a clean manuscript to reprint our Battlefield publication that is sold at the gift shop there. The text has been updated, it needs a little clean up formatting. The next step is to work on the images in the publication and make sure we have the rights to them and get clean copies for the manuscript.

**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.

1. Would you find value in an expert-level guided tour of TCHA properties (Battlefield Museum, Fort Ouiatenon and the like) for a reasonable registration fee?
2. Would you use TCHA paid-parking areas while attending the Feast of the Hunter's Moon?
3. Would you attend (or find value in) an outdoor Spring Festival sponsored by TCHA for a reasonable fee?
4. Would you visit and utilize, for a reasonable fee, the resources at Argenbright Center if weekend and/or evening hours were available?

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

Attending: Cassie Apuzzo, Claire Eagle, Whitney Walton
Other members: Colby Bartlett, Jeff Burnworth

The Committee reviewed the 16 responses to the survey distributed to staff and volunteers. A brief summary is as follows:

In answer to the question about job satisfaction, respondents expressed satisfaction from working with co-workers, making information available to the community; helping people, digitization and other tasks.

In answer to the question about sufficient time for their jobs, most said yes; volunteers indicated that they decide their own schedule and can take as much time as needed for long-term projects. One respondent said no, that helping volunteers and interns reduces the time for job tasks.

The question asking for improvements in their jobs elicited several different responses, including: more staff to help with volunteers, a part-time facilities or maintenance person, more open hours at Argenbright, training a successor for the librarian position.

Ideas for strategic planning included the following: hire more staff, including a programs person and a facilities/maintenance person; charging money for events and classes; replacing the Argenbright building; better outreach/messaging to the public about TCHA.

Topics that arose included the following:

- Cassie will meet with a volunteer who requested a follow-up meeting
- Committee members will develop questions for the public following the directive from the last Board meeting, for example: Do people know they can volunteer for TCHA? What is the public perception of volunteering for TCHA?

- The issue of feast volunteers was discussed, but might be deferred as out of the purview of the Goal 4 committee's charge on staff and volunteer capacity

In response to the survey the Committee identified some potential strategies or goals for future consideration:

- train/identify a Senior Volunteer who could help other volunteers with mundane questions and procedures and free up time for staff
- consider establishing a handyman on retainer, since competent part-time workers are difficult to secure
- work on succession planning for staff positions as needed
- hire more staff? If so, what position?
- Establish a sub-committee on volunteer recruitment

The committee will follow up on the above points and meet on August 19, 2025 at 5:15 PM in Arganbright.

Strategic Plan Goal 5: Board Involvement and Talent

The group has met five times and has methodically gone through steps to identify roles the Board plays in advancing the Mission of TCHA. We have taken each role and identified mechanisms by which the Board could improve in each of these roles. We then prioritized the top roles we felt would be most critical to advancing the Mission of TCHA and then started creating specific steps and mechanisms for these top roles. At the last meeting we worked out the Goal, Rationale, What Will Be Done?, Who Should Do It?, Timeline, and Measurable Outcomes for the top three Strategic Goals for the Board. The top three Goals are: 1) Improve the Board's understanding of their role as financial stewards of the Association, 2) Improve the process of recruitment of prospective new Board members and improve the orientation and education of new Board members selected to join the Board, and 3) Improve the function of the Nominating Committee to expand its role to that of a Search and Nominating Committee. The last step in our strategic plan process is for the Committee chair to write up a summary report for submission to the Strategic Planning Committee.

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

Jeremy Spann -*
Colby Bartlett

Claire Eagle
Quentin Robinson

Dave Sattler
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