

**Armada Area Historical Society**  
**General Membership Meeting Minutes – January 8, 2026**  
**Grange Hall, Armada Fairgrounds; Armada, MI – 7:00pm**

Meeting called to order at 7:09 pm

**Members Attending:**

Gaylene Barker, Ross Boelke, Sam Boelke, Pat Darling, Kevin Grand, Gary MacArthur, Gregory Schultz, Ron Slobodnik, Shirley Slobodnik, Georgia Toles, Rhosan J. Beatham Zebelian

**Approval of Agenda:**

Motion to approve agenda as presented made by Ross Boelke. Second by Sam Boelke.  
**All Ayes.**

**Approval of Minutes from December 11, 2025 Meeting:**

Motion to approve minutes as presented made by Ross Boelke. Second by Gregory Schultz. **All Ayes.**

**Officer Reports:**

President (Greg) – Nothing to report.

Vice President (Sam) – See attached.

Secretary (Kevin) – See below.

Treasurer (Sam) – See attached.

Curator (Pat) – Nothing to report.

Co-Curator (Ross) – Ross reported three more boxes of mugs have been removed from storage. There is only one box of mugs remaining. A table for the scanner had been built. He had spoken to the Fair Board about obtaining a state historical marker for the Fair - needs to submit their application by April 15<sup>th</sup>. Was in contact with Steve from the state historical commission. The manufacturer of the state markers is currently behind schedule, and it is looking doubtful that the marker will be ready June. Still needs to make a decision on its final location for the historical marker within the Village. Announced the donation of a large monitor to the AAHS.

**Public/Member Comments**

Georgia Toles has reported that Bill Wagner had passed away. Ross added that he will bring in a condolence card to the February meeting for those attending to sign.

**Old Business:**

- AAHS annual membership renewals – Greg reminded everyone in attendance that dues were due in today, especially if they wanted to run for office/vote at meeting.

- Macomb County Heritage Alliance (MCHA) – Greg reported that the annual renewal has been sent. He added that that Kevin would be the voting representative that that Greg and Sam would be the primary contacts for the AAHS
- Strategic planning for digitizing/posting AAHS material – Greg recommended creating a committee to review what we currently have available and determine the best way to proceed with what we currently have available. Ross suggested reviewing the AAHS charter to help in that area. Greg replied that placing our material on a website would be the best method to address the charter criteria. Ross, Greg (and Gaylene?) will make up the sub-committee.
- Armada Township Hall displays – Ross described his initial attempt to create a display at the Township Hall. He added that was not satisfied with the original display but threw out a few suggestions on how it could be improved. Discussion moved to how often the display should be rotated. Will seek feedback from Township to help determine how to proceed.
- Purchase of scanner – Kevin indicated that he is still looking for a model that will be able to scan larger objects that were requested at an earlier meeting. Ross reminded those in attendance that his family would willing to donate a portion of purchase price to the AAHS.
- History in our Backyard – Kevin reported that he is currently looking at some locations and will report back when he has them finalized.
- AAHS 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (June 28, 2026) – Greg discussed several ideas to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> AAHS/250<sup>th</sup> US Anniversary, including Ron’s suggestion for a commemorative wooden nickel. Ross discussed having an event open to the public including providing cake and having items from the AAHS collection on display. Greg had some concerns regarding receiving permission from the Village to hold any public event. A suggestion was made to offer Hot Air Balloon rides, in conjunction with a car show. Ross recommended getting something in place as soon as we can, because the next four months will go by very quickly.
- AAHS 2026 Officers Elections – unanimous votes were cast for the following officers:

President – Sam Boelke  
 Vice President – Gregory Schultz  
 Treasurer – Ross Boelke  
 Co-Secretary – Georgia Toles/Shirley Slobodnik  
 Co-Curator – Pat Darling/Ross Boelke

**New Business:**

None.

**Final Member Comments:**

None.

**Upcoming Events:**

AAHS November Meeting – February 12, 2026 @ 7:00pm.

**Close Meeting**

Motion made by Ross Boelke, second by Rhosan J. Beatham Zebelian to close meeting at 8:54pm. **All Ayes.**

*Minutes prepared by Kevin Grand: AAHS Secretary*

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**Tentative AAHS Meeting Dates for 2026**

March 12 <sup>th</sup>	April 9 <sup>th</sup>	May 14 <sup>th</sup>	June 11 <sup>th</sup>	July 9 <sup>th</sup>
August 13 <sup>th</sup>	September 10 <sup>th</sup>	October 8 <sup>th</sup>	November 12 <sup>th</sup>	
		December 10 <sup>th</sup>		

Unless otherwise publicized, all meetings will begin at 7:00pm within The Grange Hall located on the Armada Fair Grounds, Armada, MI

**Armada Area Historical Society  
Treasurer's Report January 8, 2026**

**Checking Account Beginning Balance Dec. 12, 2025** **\$18,389.93**

<b>Income</b>	
Memberships: Barker 2026	10.00
Interest Income 12.31.25	.16
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$10.16</b>

**\$18,400.09**

**Expenditures**

<b>Total Expenditures</b>	
MCHA Annual Fee. Ck# 245 12.11.25	\$30
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**Checking Account Balance 1.8.26** **\$18,370.09**

<b>Historical Marker Fund</b>		<b>Estimated total needed</b>	<b>\$6,500.00</b>
Fall 2019	Carryover from Sesquicentennial		\$810.63
5.27.22	Mark & Karen Albrecht		\$250.00
6.4.22	Vinckier Ribfest		\$252.50
6.13.22	Ross Boelke; additional Ribfest food donations		\$115.00
6.27.22	Kevin Grand		\$100.00
7.11.22	Partial donation payment Armada Flea 50/50		\$500.00
7.15.22	Armada Flea donation		\$300.00
8.16.22	Ross Boelke – pre fair hours worked		\$61.59
9.15.22	Pre-fair hours worked by society members @ \$10 per hour		\$850.00
2.13.23	Greg Schultz		\$100.00
2.9.24	Online donations		\$135.00
8.24.23	Armada Flea Market 2023 donations		\$500.00
9.11.23	Armada Fair 2023 donation		\$900.00
6.17.24	Shirley & Ron Slobodnik		\$50.00
6.17.24	Butch Peders (Armada Flea Vendor)		\$40.00
7.11.24	Armada Flea Market Donation		\$197.00
9.16.24	Armada Flea Market Donation		\$380.00
9.16.24	Armada Fair 2024		\$800.00
	<b>Total Collected</b>		<b>\$6,341.72</b>
	Application Fee Ck# 241		-\$250
	<b>Total funds for Marker</b>		<b>\$6091.72</b>

**Notes:**

- After taking out the Historical Marker Fund of \$6091.72 the unassigned balance is \$12,278.37