



Minutes: Historical Commission 28 July 2014

The regular meeting of the Middle Smithfield Township Historical Commission was held on July 28, 2014 at 7:13pm at the Schoonover Municipal Building.

In Attendance: Annette Atkinson, Priscilla Masilimani, Bob Huffman, Diane Huffman, Steve Kulick, Steven Natiello, Danny Younger, Kim Williams, Ed Regina, Mike Dwyer

Previous Minute Meetings

- **Correction:** 50th anniversary, not 56th.

Bob Huffman made motion to accept minutes with correction. Seconded by Steve Kulick.

Treasurer's Report. (Ed Regina)

- Little Spent. Nothing has changed since last workshop.

Old Business

- Calendar Committee: Kim Williams. Kim needs 14 photos. There have been no responses as of yet.
- Priscilla had an old photo of the church and was going to talk to their PR to see if they have any photos.
 - Originally called the Record. Then the Daily Record. Then the Pocono Record.
- The Monroe County Historical Association offers access to any of its records. Kim Williams will talk to the Monroe County Historical Association to fill any remaining calendar pages.
- Steve Kulick offered the use of his portable wand scanner.
- The committee pointed out that there was a need for old photos of specific locations such as ;the election house, the school, and the bridge.
- Annette Atkinson suggested identifying contact people of specific locations.

Memory Makers

- Annette mentioned that the Memory Makers may need to be rescheduled to September 6 or 13th, depending on the availability of facilities
- There was a discussion regarding the format of Memory Makers. It was agreed that there was need to revise the format to be more conversation-friendly, and less presentation oriented to help facilitate sharing of photos and stories.

Currently available historical materials. Group

- There was a discussion of available historical content, including a map, etc. Bob Huffman mentioned that he had three bound documents of pictures about MST from the Pocono Record and possibly other publications, including...

- i. The explosion.
- ii. The old mountain lake house and other locales.

Bob Huffman said he would bring his documents to the township office tomorrow morning for Steven Natiello to scan and archive.

Passport to History. (Steve Kulick)

- Steve Kulick gave an update to the passport to history, including cost, availability, distribution method, etc. He brought a sample batch (20ct)
- Annette Atkinson volunteered to buy the batch for the committee.
- The committee discussed how to spread the word on the existence Passports. The Township will draft a post and communicate with the Committee.
- The publication is to be available for sale throughout the County and through the Historical Commission
- Steve Kulick gave Annette a copy of the flyer.

Virtual Museum. Ed Regina on behalf of John Beljean

- Ed Regina suggested developing a subcommittee and a budget so that they can have clearly defined operation parameters.
- They envisioned the website being separate from the Township's website (it would still be owned by the Township if Township funds are used). Hence the budget; how much to spend on development, etc.\
- Steven Natiello will build the website with Ed and John Beljean and Danny Younger and Built within the existing mst.com infrastructure.
- John mentioned that the Historical Society of PA had a virtual museum that could be used as an example. Virtual museum content
 - i. Scan historical pictures.
 - ii. Document cabinet items
 - iii. Items from Danny's Flash Drive
 - iv. Memorial video from Steve Kulick (Steve Kulick will bring the video tomorrow at around 5)

Donations

No updates on donations.

Interviews. Roundtable discussion.

- There was a discussion regarding the date of the interviews at the twp. building.
- Steve Kulick will call Karen to plan specific date.

Certificates. Steve Kulick

Steve Kulick requested a delay for the certificates because he wants to choose historical looking certificates

Spur Line Del-Val Old Track Line Walk. Steve Kulick

- Steve Kulick's said that he would check at Dunkelbergers or Frank Smith for a better metal detector.
- It was agreed that the walk would be scheduled for October or November. The committee
- Route: *Meet at the twp building. From Bushkill behind the church. Turns to the platform. Park Service plaque. Power line section. Path that might have been train line then came out by Bushkill ambulance. Winona Falls road. Passed by stone fence with embedded tracks.*

Marshalls creek memorial.

Steve Kulick will bring a video.

Survivors. Steve Kulick

- Ed Regina volunteered to be a guest speaker. Bob Huffman was there. Fireman Hyde.
- There was a discussion about the survivor discussion.
- There was a discussion of the date chosen-- the committee agreed to choose a date and time at a later meeting.

New Business

- Identifying historical structures for preservation. Danny Younger.
 - Danny requested that the committee consider a return to their mission to preserve historical items in the twp.
 - Danny informed the group about the upcoming demolition of certain sites in the County (parks service).
 - Danny requested that the commission consider setting up a plan to do the legwork to assess the historical structures and sites in order to suggest preservation options
 - Mike Dwyer agreed that it's a worthwhile undertaking. Evaluation should be internal, and then invite Donahue.
 - Danny suggested cooperating with Lehman if possible.
 - Mike suggested Danny and Kim use Freeman track to help create a baseline for judgment.
- Lenape Nation Treaty Signing on the Delaware. Danny Younger

Danny informed the group about the Lenape Nation event on the Delaware at Shawnee. They will be camped at Dingman's campground the night prior. Danny suggested the committee have some presence.
- Resignation of Steve Kulick. Steve Kulick.

Steve Kulick resigned as chairperson citing personal reasons. Steve Kulick read his resignation letter and assured the committee that he plans to continue serving on the committee and volunteered his services in the meantime and whenever necessary.

The committee expressed their gratitude for his service.

- There was a discussion on bringing in new faces.
 - Danny Younger suggested pancake breakfasts and historian presentations.
 - Danny Younger suggested more coordination with other groups, such as Monroe County Historical Association.
- Ed Regina mentioned an event that he attended in which a Titanic discussion was facilitated with meals served on the Titan

Meeting Adjourned at 8:55pm