



The regular meeting of the Middle Smithfield Township Historical Commission was held on October 7th, 2015 at 9:05AM with Carrie Wetherbee presiding and Chantel Wilder as recording secretary.

Board Members: Carrie Wetherbee, Bob Huffman, Diane Huffman (not present), Kim Williams and Danny Younger (not present)

Public: None

Township Staff: Supervisor Annette Atkinson, Steven Natiello (not present), Liaison Chantel Wilder

Carrie Wetherbee made a motion to call the meeting to order. Bob Huffman seconded the motion. Meeting called to order at 9:05AM.

Bob Huffman made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Kim Williams seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

Bob Huffman made a motion to accept the minutes. seconded by Kim Williams. Motion Passed 4-0

Correspondence:

- Received letter from Patricia J. and Patricia A. Griffin in regard to the brick Church on Route 209 that they own, the Griffins inquired about possibly turning Church into museum. Board of Supervisors are unable to assist at this time but wanted the Historical Commission to review in the event that a member could have a suggestion.
 - Board members discussed in length and concluded due to parking, potential restoration costs and finding volunteers to operate the museum, it is not a possibility at this time. Bob Huffman made motion to accept this decision and Kim Williams Seconded.
 - Carrie Wetherbee suggested that Middle Smithfield Township could eventually have a welcoming center and mentioned the local vacant library may be a good location. Annette Atkinson mentioned the same issues could apply (cost, volunteers) and mentioned that a space in the Indian Museum could be looked into, as it already operating and staffed. Carrie Wetherbee will look into the cost of the library and possibly see if LERTA could help.

New Business:

- Carrie Wetherbee provided an update for the Historical Marker going up on Route 209 (near Wendy's for Mastodon); Carrie Wetherbee stated that marker will be ready November 10th (after Fossil Day). Carrie Wetherbee suggested that the marker still be installed this year and have official ceremony next year on Fossil Day. Annette Atkinson had an opinion with installation this year, marker is not going to be here till November (already entering winter) and may not be able to install until December and ground will be frozen. Board members agreed and decided to wait till spring to discuss installation date and have dedication event on Fossil Day.
 - Board members discussed in length where the marker will be installed and looked at GIS and determined that the best location is in fact at Wendy's (on hill) would be a decent location as it will allow locals and visitors to actually be able to read the marker rather than drive by on side of road on 209. Carrie Wetherbee said owner of Wendy's (Kevin Jones) is in agreement of the marker being installed.

- Annette Atkinson suggested that since marker will not be going up this year, that perhaps a small gathering (holiday reception) can be put together that be focused on marker. Carrie Wetherbee requested that if gathering is to take place that it is before December 10th, as she will be out of the country. Annette Atkinson will look into dates further and discuss at next meeting (possibly December 2nd or 5th).

Old Business:

- Carrie Wetherbee purchased book from Lawrence Squeri to gather more information for 2016 Memory Makers (theme on resorts) and will be visiting the historical society to get even more information. Carrie Wetherbee will reach out to author Lawrence Squeri and inquire if he is interested in being a guest speaker. Carrie also looked into another book that was co-written by Marie Summa (local) titled, "*Stroudsburg in the Poconos*" and she will try to contact Marie Summa and inquire if she also interested in speaking. Carrie Wetherbee stated that she will keep board members updated on the 2016 Memory Makers progress.
 - Kim Williams wanted to know if a check list could be created for interviews so that the board members can have a guide and ensure that nothing is overlooked and questions may even be able to introduce other topics. Carrie Wetherbee mentioned that we have already asked resident to share their memorabilia and asking non-related questions could possibly be going off topic. Kim Williams will try to bring in a sample of the interview questions to possibly provide a better understanding of his suggestion.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30am.

Next Meeting: November 4th, 2015 at 9am