



Minutes: Historical Commission Meeting

Feb 23rd 2015

The regular meeting of the Middle Smithfield Township Historical Commission was held on February 23rd, 2015 at 7:05PM with Danny Younger presiding and Amy Majani as recording secretary.

Board Members: Danny Younger, Diane Huffman, Kim Williams

Township Staff: Supervisor Annette Atkinson, Liaison Amy Majani.

Danny Younger made a motion to call the meeting to order. Kim Williams seconded the motion. Meeting called to order at 7:05pm.

Historical Markers

- There was a discussion about the status of the mastodon marker, which PHMC had approved. Members agreed to make it a Historical Commission Project. Danny Younger will fill out the necessary paperwork, and forward it to the supervisors for approval.
- Kim Williams: Mentioned the following sites and buildings as possible Historical Markers opportunities:
 - Hill Side Inn
 - Delaware Valley Rail Road
 - The Zion Church
 - The Explosion Site
 - Middle Smithfield Presbyterian Church
 - The Indian Museum
 - Wesleyan Church (Pat Griffin's church)
 - Historical District Markers: Echo Lake and Park, Bushkill Area, Spring Houses
 - Resica Falls
 - Kahkout Mountain
 - Sand Hill church site
 - Wooddale church

John R. Miller Update

- Despite having a few biographical entries matching the name John Miller, and documentation matching the unit he served in there isn't much left research wise within the commission's resources to find exact records on him.

Lecture Series.

- Danny Younger will be communicating with Russell Kramer on the possibility of having him give a lecture on the evolution of Stone tools.
- Danny also suggested that the Historical Commission honor Don Klein, who discovered the Shawnee-Minisink site, during one of the lectures

Memory Makers

- Members agreed that August would be a great month to host the banquet.
- Suggestions for Memory Makers: Members agreed that Memory Makers 2015 serve as banquet to remember the Flood of 1950, focusing on the resiliency of the human spirit in the course of the flood.
 - Kim Williams suggested having Mary Schaefer, who has written extensively on the flood, as a guest speaker.
 - Members agreed that the 2016 Memory Makers Banquet should be dedicated to the National Park Service

Stage Coach Parade (4TH of July)

- Mike Dwyer has been in touch with PennDOT about closing a lane on Rt, 209 for the Stage Coach to pass through. Due to the traffic congestion this might lead to, members agreed to look into alternate routes like the track around Echo Lake Park
- Danny also suggested including other township historical societies and local groups in the county.

NPS Historic Properties Management Plan

- Danny Younger suggested that the township come up with an action plan once the Park releases a their historic properties management plan.

Miscellaneous

- Annette suggested that in exchange for the Township maintaining portions of areas in Resica Falls (specifically areas of Historic significance), Resica Falls can make more areas in the park accessible to the public.

Meeting adjourned at 9:07pm.

Next Meeting: March 23rd, 2015 at 7:00pm.