



The regular meeting of the Middle Smithfield Township Historical Commission was held on September 2nd, 2015 at 9:00AM with Carrie Wetherbee presiding and Chantel Wilder as recording secretary.

Board Members: Carrie Wetherbee, Bob Huffman, Diane Huffman, Kim Williams

Public: None

Township Staff: Supervisor Annette Atkinson, Steven Natiello, Liaison Chantel Wilder

Carrie Wetherbee made a motion to call the meeting to order. Bob Huffman seconded the motion. Meeting called to order at 9:00AM.

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

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

New Business:

- Carrie Wetherbee provided an update for the Historical Marker going up on 209 (near Wendy's for Mastodon); Carrie Wetherbee stated that she has spoken with Rosemary Brown's office and asked them to get involved and was told that PennDot needs more documentation. Carrie Wetherbee stated she will continue to follow up on the marker.
 - Kim Williams inquired on the verbiage on the marker; Carrie Wetherbee stated that she would forward the verbiage to the committee. Kim Williams also wanted to know who the maker of the sign is, Carrie Wetherbee informed him that state is the maker and the Marker is already paid for, just waiting on PennDot.
 - Annette Atkinson mentioned that Wendy's is not a great location for the marker, Carrie Wetherbee stated that the marker will placed as close to the site as possible with taking in all surrounding locations into consideration.
 - Bob Huffman also stated that the marker needs to be well before Wendy's and Carrie Wetherbee stated that every effort will be made to find an appropriate location.

Old Business:

- Carrie Wetherbee stated that this year's Memory Makers was a wonderful success. Donated map was great (from Mal and Marge Law). Carrie Wetherbee mentioned that Mary Shafer requested a photo of the map.
 - Kim Williams wanted to know if Thank you letter has been sent out, Chantel Wilder informed him that they were in the process of drafting letter, and Kim requested a copy once they are completed.
 - Kim Williams mentioned that a few residents have signed up to be interviewed, Mr. & Mrs. Dewitt were scheduled to be visited today, however will be rescheduled as the residents wanted to gather more memorabilia; Mrs. Dewitt will contact Chantel Wilder when they are ready for a visit. Carrie Wetherbee requested to join Kim and Chantel when they visit the residents.
 - Carrie Wetherbee went over guest list and highlighted residents that want to be contacted to share memories.

- Carrie Wetherbee discussed 2016 Memory Makers theme; originally wanted to focus on the Hillside Inn, however felt there may not be enough content or history that local residents are knowledgeable of, suggested broadening to include all historical resorts in our area (maybe going out of our township).
 - Annette Atkinson mentioned that she spoke with Wayne Bolt and he agreed to discuss the Hillside Inn.
 - Kim Williams suggested including railroads as a subtopic, since it was how people got to the resorts.
 - Diane Huffman inquired about speakers; Carrie Wetherbee said she would research some. Kim Williams suggested looking up “Better in the Poconos” book author (Lawrence Squeri) as resorts were discussed in the book.
 - Carrie Wetherbee also mentioned Kathleen with parks service may be able to contribute knowledge.
 - Carrie Wetherbee will research how long businesses were established in the area, she felt our history needs to be opened to beyond our township, Kim Williams agreed.
 - Carrie Wetherbee asked committee if they agreed on 2016 Memory makers theme being the history of Resort with a sidebar on Railroads (committee agreed).

Meeting adjourned at 10:03am.

Next Meeting: October 7th, 2015 at 9am