



The regular meeting of the Middle Smithfield Township Historical Commission was held on December 6, 2017 at 9:00 AM with Carrie Wetherbee presiding and Dana Francis as recording secretary.

Board Members: Carrie Wetherbee, Bob Huffman, Kim Williams and Ken Johns.

Public: None

Township Staff: Liaison Dana Francis

- Meeting called to order at 9:01 AM with Carrie Wetherbee presiding.
- Bob Huffman made a motion to approve the agenda as presented, Kim Williams seconded. Motion passed 4-0.
- Kim Williams made a motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Bob Huffman. Motion Passed 4-0

**Correspondence:**

- Kim presented the Commission with an original certificate presenting 177 shares of Capital Stock of Delaware Valley Railway Company to Milton Yetter from the July 1906. Dana will display the certificate in the case in the township building lobby. (Copy Attached)

**Public Comment:**

- None

**New Business:**

- **End of Year Recap 2017**
  - Collectively, the Commission members went over the accomplishments for the 2017 calendar year. Highlighted were:
    - The completion of the Township Marker Application and submission of applications for the Resica Falls Village Archeological Site and Middle Smithfield Presbyterian Church.
    - The Memory Makers event saw its highest attendance yet with 184 guests and excellent presentations from Kim Williams and Dr. Martin Wilson.
    - The Fossil Day & Marshalls Creek Mastodon event was a huge success, attracting triple the amount of attendees expected. The Commission members all agreed the presentation from Mike & Roberta Straka was fantastic and they would like to bring them back next year.

- **2018 Goals due next meeting 1/3/2018**
  - Carrie reviewed the goals from 2017 and what the Commission completed from those goals. Brief discussion took place over possible goals for 2018. Goals for next year are due at the January 2018 meeting.

**Old Business:**

- **2018 Memory Makers & 2019 Calendar Theme**
  - The Commission members reviewed the list for 2018 Memory Makers and 2019 Calendar they came up with in September:
    - Farms and Barns
    - Women Who Made History in Monroe County
    - Local Theaters and Playhouses
    - Water Falls and Tanneries
    - Resica Falls Past & Present
  - Everyone feels the topics are interesting and some would make great calendars; they still feel Women Who Made History in Monroe County would be the best for a Memory Makers event from this list.
  - After the November meeting and input from the Township Supervisors, Commission members would like to come up with a topic the Supervisors would feel is more inclusive of all residents.
  - Much discussion took place over this matter. Everyone feels that the topic with a working title of Influential Families in Middle Smithfield Township History would be a broader topic and nice compromise for all. The Commission members will continue to discuss Memory Makers topics in the New Year.
  
- **Historical Marker progress**
  - Township Markers:
    - Carrie reviewed the two applications that were submitted by the Commission. Everyone will discuss which applications are next to being completed from their existing list at the January 2018 meeting.
  - State Markers:
    - Dana told the Commission members that she was able to contact Al Roberts, who was the lead investigator from the Interstate Commerce Commission (ICC) at the Marshalls Creek Explosion site. Mr. Roberts was able to forward her a copy of the original ICC report and agreed to be listed as a source on the application.
    - Dana and Holly Freese (representing the Marshalls Creek Fire Company) submitted the completed application to the PA Historical and Museum Commission on November 30<sup>th</sup>. Dana will email the Commission Members the completed application and sources used.

- **2018 Calendar Update**

- Dana provided everyone with the latest draft of the 2018 calendar. She hopes to have the finished product by the next meeting.

**Discussion:**

- General Discussion took place about the boxes of slides that were donated to the township roughly one year ago. Kim mentioned taking time after meetings beginning in 2018 to look through them on the projector that was donated by Steven Kulick.
- Dana informed the Commission members that the Supervisors instructed her to look into Scan Café (a company that digitizes slides). She will keep the Commission informed on the progress.

**Announcements:**

- a) Holiday Luncheon at the Historic 1795 Stroud Mansion Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup>. \$25 per person to attend. Reservation Required.
- b) Township Building Closed Friday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>, Monday, December 25<sup>th</sup>, and Monday, January 1<sup>st</sup> 2018.
- c) Shop Local Program runs November 20- January 2<sup>nd</sup> 2018
- d) Supervisors Reorganization Meeting Tuesday, January 2<sup>nd</sup> 2018  
Auditor's Reorganization Wednesday, January 3<sup>rd</sup> 2018

**Meeting adjourned at 10:52am.**

**Next Meeting: January 3rd at 9:00am.**