



Minutes: Historical Commission Meeting

June 3, 2021

The regular meeting of the Middle Smithfield Township Historical Commission was held on June 3, 2021 starting at 9:00 AM with Carrie Wetherbee presiding.

Board Members: Carrie Wetherbee, Ken Johns, Patricia Francis & Charisse Fallon

Public:

Liaison: Rachel Heller

Approval of Minutes:

- Ken Johns made a motion to approve the May 2021 minutes as presented. Charisse Fallon seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

Correspondence: None

Public Comment: None

Old Business:

Lecture Series

- Rachel reached out to Mary Shafer to inquire if she would speak on the flood
- Supervisor Annette Atkinson suggested reaching out to Tom Riccobono to see if he would be willing to tape and edit the lecture series and to get a cost.
- The committee decided that the initial lecture would air on a certain date and time and then it would be available via youtube for future reference.
- Supervisor Annette Atkinson suggested that we could put the lectures on a loop at the Cultural Center.
- Ken Johns spoke to Jim Litts about the Flood and Jim recalled 39 bridges that needed to be replaced in the Monroe County area.
- Ken Johns also suggested that we capture local stories about the '55 flood and in general before they are lost.
- Carrie Wetherbee suggested getting a banner to hang on 209 to advertise the lecture series

Registry

- The committee agreed that roundtables need to be scheduled to start to work on the registry
- The artifacts will go to the Community Center and will be rotated out
- Danny Younger has stated in the past that he has access to the National Park Service and could get us items to put on display
- Annette and Rachel are going to look into various types of display cabinets to see what will work best for the area that we have.

- We have many newspapers that need to be preserved; we will be talking to Amy from MCHA about how to proceed with this and who to contact.

Honoring Robert Huffman

- Supervisor Annette Atkinson suggested that we could honor him at either the Mid-Year Review in July or at the Person of the Year in January event.
- Mr. Huffman has served in various capacities and Rachel will contact the East Stroudsburg School District for his years of service and the Marshalls Creek Fire Company for his years of service, as well as his years of service to the MST Historical Commission.
- Rachel will contact Mrs. Huffman and his brother Jay Huffman to write up a bio for the event. This is something that can be in the MST Newsletter.

Resica Falls Boy Scout Camp

- The committee has shown interest in touring the Resica Falls area and Rachel checked the website to see if they are open again due to Covid-19 closure. They are in fact open again and she can reach out to set up a tour date for Fall once their camps are over for the year. The committee agreed that they would like to proceed with this come fall.

New Business:

Community Center

- Supervisor Annette Atkinson: The Boy Scouts will be relocating the Veterans Memorial that was done as an Eagle Scout Project. This will now be located at the front of the Cultural Center. There will be a ceremony on June 14 for Flag Day to reinstate the memorial.

Discussion:

- Supervisor Annette Atkinson brought up the Veterans Wall that Senator Mario Scavello is doing in Mt. Pocono and asked if Ken Johns knew what Senator Scavello needed from us.
- Carrie Wetherbee informed us that the MCHA Annual Wine Pairing Event will be held virtual this year.
- Pat Francis wants to look into fundraising options and look at other events to attract more attention to our committee.
- Charisse Fallon doesn't feel that as a committee we are in a position to fundraise as we do not produce enough.
- Ken Johns approached the library to ask why there isn't a section for MST history books at the Library of the Smithfields.
- Ken Johns asked Supervisor Annette Atkinson if the Board of Supervisors was going to proceed forward with getting pictures of the Dinky Railroad hung at the library. Supervisor Annette Atkinson was going to bring it to the BOS at their work session.

Next meeting date: July 1, 2021

Adjournment

- Patricia Francis made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:00 am, seconded by Charisse Fallon.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rachel Heller
Recording Secretary