



Minutes: Historical Commission Meeting

February 2, 2023

The regular meeting of the Middle Smithfield Township Historical Commission was held on February 2, 2023 starting at 9:00 AM.

Board Members: Carrie Wetherbee, Charisse Fallon, Gary Morris, Bob Huffman, Ken Johns, Deborah Emin. and Pat Francis, Supervisor Annette Atkinson.

Public:

Liaison: Holly Dennis

Approval of Minutes:

- Bob Huffman made a motion to approve the January 2023 minutes as presented. Gary Morris seconded. Motion passed 7-0.

Correspondence: None

Public Comment: None

New Business:

Old Business:

Notable Residents- Residents/Biographies/Family Tree

- Confirmed dates for February 16th and February 23rd for the interviews at 9 am.

Marshalls Creek Explosion State Marker

- The township met with Ed Regina to discuss the location of the marker on his property. The marker will be in a clearing halfway between the church and the storefront. There are plans to have the area landscaped.
- Annette Atkinson said the township has plans to expand the site to include a memorial after the dedication to include a tribute that includes the names of people who were killed, more details, etc. Annette asked the committee to submit ideas on how they would like to go about it (create a panel, including families effected, the fire company, members of the public etc.) Annette suggested putting out a call for designs and ideas.
 - Annette gave the example of the memorial done by the NPS on Flight 93.
 - Deborah asked if the school can get involved. Annette said that they will be notified.

2023 Topics

- Local Native America Tribes- (Delaware Tribes)
 - Research Update- Committee members are still in the process of researching. Topics will be assigned.
 - Charisse- Wildlife, Plants and Medicine
 - Gary- War/Battles
 - Pat- Spirituality, Writing and Medicine
 - Deborah- Music
 - Carrie- A bit of everything

- The committee will send research to Carrie and Holly and Holly will compile their work into the presentation and display for Memory Makers.
- Pat put Holly in contact and is currently talking to Russell Cramer as a potential speaker. If anyone else has any suggestions, please let her know.

Announcements:

- MCHA Annual Luncheon- Sunday, February 26 at Shawnee Inn. Annette asked if any committee members are going. The topic will be the Lenape Communities. Pat, Charisse and Carrie are going.
- Annette Atkinson announced that the Township donated \$3,000 to the MCHA for the new building.
- MCHA Opening Reception “With Love, from the Straussers” Wednesday, February 8th at 5:30 pm at Stroudsmoor. Last day to register is Friday, February 3rd. \$75 per person.

Next meeting date: March 2, 2023 at 9 am

Adjournment

- Carrie Wetherbee made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:04 am. Charisse Fallon seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Holly Dennis

Historical Commission

Recording Secretary