



The regular meeting of the Middle Smithfield Township Historical Commission was held on October 5th, 2016 at 9:03 AM with Carrie Wetherbee presiding and Chantel Wilder as recording secretary.

Board Members: Carrie Wetherbee, Bob Huffman, Diane Huffman, Kim Williams and Marie Summa.

Public: Ken Johns

Township Staff: Supervisor Annette Atkinson, Liaison Chantel Wilder, Staff Robert Rengifo

- Carrie Wetherbee made a motion to call the meeting to order. Diane Huffman seconded the motion. Meeting called to order at 9:00AM.
- Bob Huffman made a motion to approve the agenda as presented, Diane Huffman seconded. Motion passed 4-0.
- Bob Huffman made a motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Diane Huffman. Motion Passed 4-0

Correspondence:

- None

Public Comment:

- None

New Business:

- **Historical Marker Dedication:**
 - Carrie Wetherbee stated that the State will be sending a special cover for the marker and should be received soon.
 - Carrie Wetherbee went over confirmed attendee list to ensure no one was overlooked.
 - Kim Williams inquired about Paul Struasser (employee of Mastodon remains discoverer) and wanted to if the Strauser landscaping company near us are relatives of Paul Struasser, Ken Johns was able to confirm that there is no relation.
 - Marie Summa inquired about moving the marker closer to the site of discovery and both Annette Atkinson and Carrie Wetherbee briefly explained why the marker cannot be moved and went over the State's requirements.
 - Bob Huffman clarified that he did not actually save the mastodon remains from a fire, however he was part of the rescue crew that prevented the fire from touching the structure that the remains were inside of.
 - Carrie Wetherbee inquired about the Mastodon signs that were placed along 209 and the mural for the Marker dedication. Robert Rengifo explained which businesses the signs were placed in front of. Robert Rengifo provided the commission with information on the materials that were ordered for the dedication event; a close to a life size mural of the Mastodon and a cutout of the maker.
 - Carrie Wetherbee inquired if Bob Ciavetta would be the videographer and Annette Atkins confirmed that he would be.

- Chantel Wilder asked Kim Williams if he would be available to take photos and he confirmed that he would be.
- Carrie Wetherbee recapped the event and advised that Commission members arrive early enough to greet the guest for the day. Following the morning event, Photo will be taken at the site of the Mastodon Marker at Wendy's.
- Carrie Wetherbee thanked Marie Summa Special for completing the interview with the Treible Family. The Treible family is related to the Leap family, who owned the property that the Mastodon was discovery.
 - Marie Summa shared her experience of the interview and showed the Commission a thumbnail of the photos that she was able to get permission to obtain.

Old Business: (see next page)

- **Interview of residents:**

- Carrie Wetherbee mentioned that now that one interview was completed successfully the Commission will need to revisit residents to interview.
 - Marie Summa said that if the video of prior interviews that were done on Nancy Shiaktus can be found, then a new interview does not need to be done.
 - Chantel Wilder stated that she will try to locate them.

- **2017 Calendar Theme**

- Kim Williams provided the Commission with a printout of the captions that he completed for the calendar. He spent a lot of time writing the captions and filtering through photos for the calendar and asked that Commission members assist and review. Kim Williams provided a slide show of the photos he selected and Commission members went through all of the captions with relating photos and made corrections and suggestion where needed.
- Carrie Wetherbee informed Commission that if any changes or additions are to be made it would need to be done by next meeting. She asked Commission members to be available where needed.

- **Township Historical Marker Guideline:**

- Carrie Wetherbee asked Commission members to go over their research findings and she began with hers.
 - Carrie Wetherbee researched Westly Church that she conducted and has found that there is not enough information to place a marker. She asked if any of the Commission members had information to please provide her with it. Her next step is to continue to research owner information.
 - Diane Huffman researched the Pocono Indian Museum and read her findings to the Commission.
 - Public member Ken Johns provided additional information on the Pocono Indian Museum to Diane Huffman.
 - Ken Johns researched the Middle Smithfield Presbyterian Church and discussed the information he was able to compile on the history of the structure.
- Carrie Wetherbee recapped the potential markers that are still being researched and still in need of research:
 - Westly Church (Carrie Wetherbee will continue to research)
 - Pocono Indian Museum (Diane Huffman researched)
 - Middle Smithfield Presbyterian Church (Ken Johns researched)

- Wooddale Methodist Church (Diane Huffman will research)
- Resica Falls Archeological Sites (Marie Summa will research)
- Carrie Wetherbee asked Commission Members to review the procedure for potential Township markers.
 - Annette Atkinson inquired if any of the Commission members if anyone was successful in speaking to with Paradise or Tobyhanna Township to obtain their Township Marker guidelines.
 - Kim Williams mentioned that he is a member at both of the mentioned Townships and he would be happy to look into this and provide Commission with a copy of their guidelines if they exist.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00am.

Next Meeting: November 9, 2016 at 9:00am