



The regular meeting of the Middle Smithfield Township Historical Commission was held on February 3rd, 2016 at 9:03AM with Carrie Wetherbee presiding and Chantel Wilder as recording secretary.

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

Public: Ed Regina, Tony Colando, Ken Johns

Township Staff: Supervisor Mark Oney, Liaison Chantel Wilder, Christopher Rain

- Carrie Wetherbee made a motion to call the meeting to order. Bob Huffman seconded the motion. Meeting called to order at 9:03AM.
- 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

Correspondence:

- None

New Business:

- **New Member:**
 - Carrie Wetherbee welcomed new Historical Commission member Marie Summa and made mention of her books and knowledge of the Township.
- **2016 Memory Makers:**
 - Carrie Wetherbee confirmed that this year's event will take place on Saturday August 20th and the theme will focus on the history of local resorts. Carrie Wetherbee has already begun her research on resorts and realized the amount of resorts in the area; Carrie Wetherbee suggested that the Historical Commission will need to review and select the resorts that will be represented once research has been completed, and then create the presentation. Carrie Wetherbee and Kim Williams have been working together on which resorts should be included, and then will present to the Historical Commission to make selections. Carrie Wetherbee asked if any Commission members would like any resorts represented then they will be included in their research. Carrie Wetherbee confirmed the Hillside is already one of the resorts that will be part of Memory Makers, however there are several resorts in the area that have many different cultural backgrounds that the Commission should consider.
 - The Commission had a lengthy discussion on the Hillside Inn and what historical facts should be included and discussed; the Commission agreed that it is historical fact that the Hillside Inn was the first known resort of its time period to welcome African Americans , making it historically significant and a candidate for a historical marker.
 - Given the abundance of resorts, the commission agreed that parameters should be set. Carrie Wetherbee mentioned that after research is completed, everything will be presented to committee and then they can select which resorts will be highlighted for Memory Makers.
 - The Commission is interested in having author Lawrence Squeri as a speaker; Marie Summa will make contact with him and keep the Commission informed on his availability.

- **Interview of residents:**

- There was a lengthy discussion as to how to conduct the interviews:
 - Carrie Wetherbee handed out drafted interview questions that Kim Williams had emailed the Commission along with her suggested questions. The Commission went over questions and provided their suggestions.
 - Carrie Wetherbee will have another draft with updates at next meeting along with a sample release form.
 - Interview questions will be provided to resident prior to interview as to give the resident time to consider what they would like to discuss and to be more comfortable with the questions.
 - Ed Regina made a suggestion to Commission to select the people that have the most stories of the longest residence; He suggested a round table discussion with those residents.
 - The Commission would like to interview longtime resident Nancy Shukaitus. Marie Summa has agreed to make contact with Nancy and inquire if she interested in an interview.
 - The Commission agreed that interviews need to be archived for future topics.
 - The consensus of the Commission is to gather resident information on who Commission member would like to interview, and then decide on whether a round table or one on one is the best option.

Old Business:

- Reorganization for 2016: Handouts given to members

Meeting adjourned at 10:16am.

Next Meeting: March 2nd, 2016 at 9:00am