The Hiawatha History Commission met on June 10, 2019, at Hiawatha City Hall in Conference Room D with Pat Semelroth as Chair calling the meeting to order at 1:38 P.M. Members present: Merry Rooks and Marilyn James. Guests: Carol Johnson.

Business:

Merry Rooks moved the approval of the agenda, seconded by Marilyn James. Motion carried.

Merry Rooks moved the approval of the May 13, 2019 minutes, seconded by Marilyn James. Motion carried.

Hiawatha 70th and 75th Birthdays

The Commission discussed ideas for the City of Hiawatha 70th and 75th Birthdays and what has been done in the past for anniversary celebrations. They discussed doing something for the 70th, but keeping the big celebration for the 75th.

Carol Johnson discussed what she learned about book printing expenses after speaking to several local printing businesses. She said she contacted Fisher and they told her that was not their line of business. She then met face to face with individuals from J&A and Cedar Graphics. Johnson provided examples of bindings from both companies and their recommendations. Cedar Graphics told her the number of pages would be too much for a spiral bound book but provided other soft bound examples.

Rooks mentioned the possibility of doing a small book for the 70th birthday and waiting for the 75th birthday to sell the hard-bound, big book. Semelroth indicated that she didn't want to wait for the 75th birthday to release the book they've been working on because they've been working hard to get it done and many people who may be interested in this book may not be around in another five years. She suggested having the big book for the 70th birthday and a small supplement book at the 75th birthday.

The Commission discussed ideas for the 70th Birthday celebration. They decided they wanted to do something separate from the usual Fun Fest celebration that year. Ideas included picnic at the park, activities at each park, asking business to assist by providing food or balloons, showcasing fire truck/department or police car, and/or celebrating in front of City Hall.

Rooks said they should talk to Parks and Recreation and see what they can do to assist.

In closing, they reiterated that they would like to see a celebration for both birthdays separate from Fun Fest and that they would like to work with Parks and Recreation and the Parks Board. They also indicated members would reach out to local organizations and businesses. After some discussion of who to talk to (Legion, VFW, Lions, Farmers State Bank, Churches, Boy Scout/Cub Scout groups, Library) it was decided they should talk to Parks and Recreation first and in August they could begin reaching out to other organizations.

They also decided to focus on the 70th Birthday celebration first and think about the 75th later.

Hiawatha Fun Fest

Semelroth asked the group if they would like to be in the parade this year at Fun Fest as they have in the past. The parade starts by Kirkwood and comes into town and ends at the park.

Rooks offered to drive her vehicle with the back open so some could ride and throw candy and have the banner. Johnson said she would be in the parade if there was a vehicle to ride in.

James offered to use her Sam's Club Membership to purchase bulk candy.

There was some discussion of selling t-shirts to help fund the book.

Other Business Discussion
The Commission discussed briefly the pricing of the book.

Next meeting is July 8, 2019 at 1:30 p.m.

Merry Rooks moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:27 p.m., seconded by Marilyn James. Motion carried.

Pat Semelroth, Chair