The Hiawatha History Commission met on September 16, 2019, at Hiawatha City Hall in Conference Room D with Pat Semelroth as Chair calling the meeting to order at 1:42 P.M. Members present: Merry Rooks, Marilyn James, and Carol Johnson.

Business:

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

Merry Rooks moved the approval of the August 12, 2019 minutes, seconded by Carol Johnson. Motion carried.

What do you see as the purpose and focus of the History Commission?
The Commission discussed Chapter 26 Historical commission from the Code of Ordinances of the City of Hiawatha. The Commission preserves the history of Hiawatha but also shares it. They also discussed they need to have a Vice Chairman. Rooks said she would volunteer to be Vice Chairman and Semelroth said it is a two year term.

Semelroth asked how the Commission can carry out their purpose and thinks they can continue putting articles in the Hiawatha Insights, continue having people come in for interviews and getting the book done. Rooks commented that is exactly what they are doing.

Hiawatha Insights Articles
The Commission discussed the upcoming Insights Article topics. They decided to use Fire Prevention for October and the Parks for the upcoming months. Tucker for November, Guthridge for December, and Clark for January and will look into what dates the parks were dedicated. They also discussed putting a save the date article for the 70th birthday in June 2020 Insights and to start promoting the book in February 2020.

Book Finances
Semelroth said they have received $200.00 from McGrath from their grant for the book and have received a total of $1,050.00 from donors for book sponsors after they sent out letters the first time.

The Commission had a discussion on whether or not they should hold off on publishing the book until the 75th anniversary or continue to move forward with completing it for the 70th anniversary.

Semelroth asked the Commission if they are in agreement to send another letter out to businesses to ask for sponsorships. The Commission agreed with sending out letters again.

They discussed a $5,000.00 estimate from a vendor in regards to print 250 copies of the book.

Hiawatha 70th Birthday Celebration, June 12, 2020
James suggested that finding a location should be the first thing they decide on. Semelroth commented to discussing the celebration at next month's meeting.

Other Business Discussion
The Commission discussed getting a list together of all the organizations in Hiawatha, such as the Legion, Lions Club and others.

Birthday celebration of the Commission at the next meeting and discussed having a potluck.

Next meeting is October 14, 2019 at 1:30 p.m.

Marilyn James moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:46 p.m., seconded by Carol Johnson. Motion carried.

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Pat Semelroth, Chair