The Hiawatha History Commission met at the Hiawatha City Hall in Conference Room D with the Edith Wheeler as Chair calling the meeting to order at 1:42 P.M. Members present: Dick Larson, Pat Semelroth, and Jerry Seifried. Bev Daws arrived after the interview of Joan Hines. Members absent: Roberta Hamdorf and Don Gabel. Guests: Joan Hines and Mary Seifried.

Edie Wheeler welcomed Joan Hines and Mary Seifried. Edie said the Hines and Seifrieds were neighbors for many years.

The History Commission interviewed Joan Hines before the business meeting was held. Highlights of the interview include the following information:

* Joan Hines is married to Ernest (Ernie) Hines.
* Joan came from South Dakota in Sioux Falls and Madison.
* Joan and Ernie came to Cedar Rapids in 1951 with a two month old son named Steven for a job with Collins Radio where Ernie worked for 34 years.
* Joan and Ernie bought a basement house located at 106 2nd Avenue in Hiawatha around 1953.
* The basement house was available and affordable.
* Joan and Ernie liked that they were able to do their own building.
* Joan and Ernie built houses part-time to make money.
* 2nd Avenue was a gravel street with about 20 houses in the area.
* Joan cried when she found out the city was going to pave the street and the residents had to pay for it.
* Fay Clark lived on the corner and Dick and Teri Larson moved to the area later. Jerry and Mary Seifried lived up the street.
* The yards were all sand burs.
* Willmans had a mess across the street where the library is now.
* Fosnacht Grocery was located on the west side of North Center Point Road, half of a block north of Emmons Street facing Fisher Street.
* City Hall had a water tower on top of it.
* Hiawatha Lumber was behind City Hall. It was run by Cook brothers and Fay helped. Faas did the plumbing.
* Ray Wright and his wife Bella built quite a few houses on 2nd Avenue with used materials.
* Ray Wright used different colors of roofing on the house next to Bev Daws.
* Fay Clark moved to Blairs Ferry Road and it was said he had a bomb shelter.
* Joan and Ernie helped around town with the PTA and scouts. Ernie was on the Water Board for quite a few years.
* In 1960 the Hines moved to Robins.
* In 1968 the Hines moved back to Hiawatha on Center Point Road down by the railroad tracks. They had the house moved to C Avenue and that is where they live now.
* Joan and Ernie originally bought a lot across from Hiawatha School (now Guthridge Park) to put the house on but Booth decided it would hurt his other lots so he backed out.
* Wesley Tucker (Tommy) sold the Hines the lot they have on C Avenue.
* Joan worked for Rainbow Real Estate across from the post office for Mildred McGowan who did the additions from 10th Avenue to 14th Avenue.
* Women were not allowed to be on the Board of Realtors unless they were the head of the household.
* The Tuckers first lived in a log cabin on the corner of Blairs Ferry Road and Center Point Road and later they put siding on it.
* Wesley Tucker and James Fielding had a (brickcrete) cement block making business on C Avenue.
* Joan and Ernie have three boys named Russ, Steve and Tony.
* The kids went to Hiawatha School. Steve went to Franklin and the boys graduated from Kennedy.
* Joan and Ernie’s kids were involved in sports so they spent most of their time at football games, wrestling matches, baseball games, basketball games and track. They had to drive the kids to practices and were involved in the booster club.
* Tony Hines lives in Hiawatha with his five year old daughter.
* Joan and Ernie’s son Russ married Pat Peckosh.
* Joan thought the City Hall was nice and she goes to the Hiawatha Public Library and likes the walking trail at Tucker Park.
* Joan and Ernie used to work at Hog Wild Days.

Dick Larson moved the approval of the agenda, second by Pat Semelroth. Motion carried. Jerry Seifried moved the approval of the February 10, 2014 meeting minutes, second by Bev Daws. Motion carried*.*

**Future Interviews**

* Lynda Hembra (appointed to the Parks and Recreation Commission)
* Jim Faas’ daughter to talk about her mom Jeannette
* Sister Betty from Prairiewoods – Pat Semelroth will contact
* PTO members from Hiawatha School and Nixon School for May – Pat Semelroth will contact
* Jim Wheeler – Edie Wheeler will ask him to do an interview
* Dick Semelroth
* Peg Bader – wait until fall after baseball is over
* Oscars Restaurant

**Hiawatha Insight Articles**

Edie Wheeler informed commission members the fire department dedication pictures were in the March newsletter and the police chiefs will be in the April newsletter.

Edie Wheeler suggested putting a couple of pictures of the old fire trucks and the new fire trucks in the May newsletter along with the names of the fire chiefs. City Clerk Kelly Kornegor said she would ask Fire Chief Mike Nesslage to provide some pictures.

**Other Discussion**

Edie Wheeler informed commission members she would be in Reno in April and would miss the April 14th History Commission meeting. Commission members agreed to hold a meeting for the month April to watch the YouTube videos created by Metro Studios.

Edie Wheeler said she thought the first meeting of the History Commission was held in 2007 with five members.

Jerry Seifried talked about serving on City Council for two terms. Jerry said council fought the interstate; they were against it because they wanted it buried in but not above.

The History Commission talked about having a history display in the library; maybe there would be room with the new addition.

The next History Commission meeting will be held on April 14, 2014 at 1:30 p.m.

Dick Larson moved to adjourn at 2:52 P.M., second by Bev Daws. Motion carried.

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Edith Wheeler, Chair