The Hiawatha History Committee met on April 10, 2017, at Hiawatha City Hall in Conference Room D with Pat Semelroth as Chair calling the meeting to order at 1:30 P.M. Members present: Tom Theis, Sandy Brewer, Dick Larson, Chris Ask, and Mary Beth Culbertson. Absent: Jerry Seifried.

Business:

Dick Larson moved the approval of the agenda, seconded by Tom Theis. Motion carried. Sandy Brewer moved the approval of the March 13, 2017 meeting minutes with corrections, seconded by Mary Beth Culbertson. Motion carried.

Dick Larson moved appointing History Committee Member: Christine (Chris) Ask effective immediately – December 31, 2019, seconded by Mary Beth Culbertson. Motion carried.

Hiawatha Insight Articles

- May newsletter articles –
    - Continue with history on Hiawatha street names. Pat Semelroth will work on getting the information on the naming of Kainz Drive and Kacena Road.
    - Article on the appointments of Chris Ask and Mary Beth Culbertson.
- Future article –
    - Include a photo of history committee members working on the history book and ask citizens for photos and articles for the history book.

Discussion on reaching out to local businesses for History Book sponsorships

Pat Semelroth asked for input on sending a letter out to Hiawatha businesses asking for sponsorship for the History Book to help with cost. Semelroth said the City has a list of the current businesses along with addresses; sponsorship could be done in exchange for a short history on the business.

Semelroth stated the History Committee has pictures and articles on some of the first businesses but there is not much archived on the newer businesses. If the businesses are willing to participate on this project, it would be a way to get their history into the book.

Tom Theis felt History Book sponsorship would be a great opportunity for businesses to showcase themselves and it would help the History Committee with cost.

Kornegor said the History Committee would need to take the request to City Council to authorize the distribution of letters asking businesses for sponsorship. Kornegor mentioned she spoke to Semelroth and City Administrator Kim Downs about Semelroth giving a short presentation to City Council to update them on the History Book and the things the History Committee is working on. Semelroth said she would plan to go to City Council in May or June.

Semelroth mentioned History Committee members would eventually need to conduct face to face visits with some businesses and churches to inform them of the History Book project and get their support. Semelroth referred to a City brochure noting seven (7) churches in town. Kornegor said she would do some research on the internet to try and get the names of all the churches in Hiawatha.

Tom Theis moved to adjourn the business portion of the meeting at 2:17 p.m., seconded by Mary Beth Culbertson. Motion carried.

History Book

History Committee members used the rest of the meeting to work on the History Book.

Next meeting is May 8, 2017 at 1:30 p.m.

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Pat Semelroth, Chair