

The Hiawatha History Commission met on March 19, 2026, at Hiawatha City Hall in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Conference Room with Pat Semelroth as Chair calling the meeting to order at 9:07 A.M. Members present: Pat Semelroth, Chuck Graybill, Lynda Hembera and Janet Van Hoeck. Marilyn James was absent. Tom Patterson attended as a guest.

**Interview** – None.

**Business:**

Hembera updated the group that she has reached out to Rusty and Mary Ann Paulsen and they had declined coming in for an interview. Semelroth suggested asking them if they'd be open to a couple members from the commission going to their home for an interview instead. Hembera also stated the Pat Auman would like to come and talk to the commission and also has a lot of memorabilia that they could show. She went on that Don Williams (her cousin) would be available to come to the April meeting to be interviewed and that Peg Bader would be interested for an interview but at a later date because she's currently too busy. Van Hoeck spoke with Sandy McVicker about a possible interview also.

Graybill moved the approval of the agenda, seconded by Hembera. Motion carried.

Van Hoeck moved the approval of the February 19, 2026 minutes, seconded by Hembera. Motion carried.

**City Website**

Semelroth stated that all the interviews that the commission had conducted during their meetings are audio recorded. Jamie Fiedler will contact Metro Studios to see if they have the full interviews saved from when they made the videos for the website. She will also look into where the past interview audio recordings are.

**Goals for 2026**

Semelroth asked the committee if they goals were still maintained for 2026. Hembera stated that the committee should work on inventory of the items in the vault. Van Hoeck asked about the safe that's in the vault and if there was a way to open in. Patterson said they could call Jon's Lock & Key and then suggested that you could make it a contest for people to guess what's inside the safe. Van Hoeck went over the May Insight's and it was decided that the answer to April will be published and the next question will be about the safe. Semelroth asked if the committee would like to do something on Friday, June 12<sup>th</sup> for the City's birthday. She explained what was done previous years. Fiedler will work on a flyer for the 76<sup>th</sup> birthday on June 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Schedule Commission Worktime in Safe**

Semelroth asked if anyone wanted to schedule worktime in the safe. It was decided that April 8<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM.

Next meeting is April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

Hembera moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:12 a.m., seconded by Graybill. Motion carried.

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Pat Semelroth, Chair