The Hiawatha History Commission meet at the Hiawatha City Hall in Conference Room D with the Edith Wheeler as Chair calling the meeting to order at 1:30 P.M. Members present: Dick Larson, Bev Daws, Pat Semelroth and Jerry Seifried. Don Gabel and Roberta Hamdorf were absent.

Dick Larson moved the approval of the agenda, second by Pat Semelroth. Motion carried. Bev Daws moved the approval of the December 10, 2012 meeting minutes, second by Jerry Seifried.

The History Commission interviewed City Clerk, Kim Downs before the business meeting began. Highlights of the interview are as follows:

* City Clerk position is unique in that the individual does not have to live in Hiawatha
* Kim drives a 40 minute commute each day from Ryan
* Kim is married with four children
* In 1985, Kim used to live in Hiawatha on Clymer Road
* Kim has a Bachelor’s Degree in Health Services Administration/Interdisciplinary Administration from Mount Mercy University
* Kim is also a Certified Municipal Clerk obtaining certifications including the Iowa Certified Municipal Clerk, Certified Municipal Clerk and Master Municipal Clerk
* Kim was a City Clerk at the City of Ryan for five years before coming to Hiawatha
* Kim was hired at the City in 2005 as the Deputy Clerk and became City Clerk when Linda Bendixen retired in 2007
* The City Clerk’s office has really evolved since she has been at the city, managing a vast range of duties including human resources, safety, community development, reviewing project plans and speaking with legislators on issues that affect the city
* Since she has been at the city, Kim has worked with two City Administrators, two Mayors and eight different City Council members
* The City staff has grown since Kim’s employment as well; currently have 46 full-time/part-time employees and 63 members on the volunteer fire department
* Enjoys working at the city because the community, Mayor and City Council are very progressive
* Kim has been a part of many exciting projects in her career with the city including the History Committee, Hiawatha Economic Development Corporation (HEDCO), annexation of 500 acres north of Tower Terrace Road, construction of the new city hall building

**Business Meeting**

Upcoming Interviews –

* February – Ted Martin and Sandy and Vayla Brewer (Edie Wheeler will contact)
* March – Peckosh girls
* April – Jim Dyer (Pat Semelroth will contact his sister Tammy)

Hiawatha Insight Articles –

* Pat Auman has an article and picture for the February newsletter

Work Session –

* Pat Semelroth and Edie Wheeler had a work session on Friday, January 11th

Metro Studio’s Update –

* Edie Wheeler and Bev Daws will gather the articles and pictures for the DVD’s.
* The History Committee is still planning on putting together a book by putting each clip on the DVD’s in paper form.

City Clerk, Kim Downs told the committee members that they have $5,000.00 budgeted for the following fiscal years:

* Fiscal Year 2013-2014
* Fiscal Year 2014-2015

The Committee will need to prepare a budget for all future fiscal years.

Other Discussion –

* Dick Larson asked if the History Committee could recruit more people to help out. City Clerk, Kim Downs stated that the Committee is limited to seven members but they can always have volunteers come in and assist as needed.
* Committee members spoke about Craig providing an original list of charter members for the Hiawatha Lions Club
* Committee members discussed gathering information on the Optimist Club, the group that started the Hiawatha parks. City Clerk, Kim Downs mentioned that there was a Optimist bell in the vault (Edie Wheeler knows some of the ladies that were in the Optimist Club and she will contact them)
* The Committee had discussion on the Quonset rafters and using them as sculptures. City Clerk, Kim Downs stated that there was someone interested in buying them. In order for them to be used in a park pavilion they need to be certified. The rafters could possibly be used in other locations in the city and there are future plans to construct a park on the Northwest side of town.
* Edie Wheeler provided four names for Shiloh Cemetery Trustees: Dr. Richard Lovar, Ron Bower, Howard Smith and Carl Minor

The next History Commission meeting will be held on February 11, 2013 at 1:30 p.m.

Dick Larson moved to adjourn at 3:21 P.M., second by Bev Daws. Motion carried.

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Edith Wheeler, Chair