

The Hiawatha History Commission met on July 8, 2024, at Hiawatha City Hall in Conference Room C with Pat Semelroth as Chair calling the meeting to order at 1:30 P.M. Members present: Pat Semelroth and Marilyn James. Tom Patterson attended as a visitor.

Business:

Marilyn James moved the approval of the agenda, seconded by Pat Semelroth. Motion carried.

Marilyn James moved the approval of the June 10, 2024 minutes, seconded by Pat Semelroth. Motion carried.

\$4,678.85 currently in account. Semelroth asked to have this provided at each meeting. Amy said she will show Jamie how to print this report.

Recap of 74th birthday party

James commented it was hot and windy, Semelroth said it was good to visit with citizens. James noted it would be nice if we had more kid friendly trinkets but there are only a few that come through. James said all business received a thank you card and many were very receptive and surprised to get a thank you. The Commission discussed local businesses who donated small prizes. They discussed the two banners from Banacom and how Rod found them, Banacom updated the banner at no charge. Semelroth added the company who printed the Hiawatha History Book is no longer in business. They split into a printing company and a graphics company and Pat will reach out to Paul at SPS to see if they can get a copy of the book file. She will also get a count of how many books the Commission still has.

Create a committee for Hiawatha's 75th Birthday 2025

The Commission discussed reaching out to the Lions Club and Legion to see if there are any volunteers. Patterson emailed a list of ideas to Semelroth and the Commission discussed what those ideas were including: concert, food trucks, bouncy house, bike ride (like HIBRAI), fireworks, parade, hot air balloons, coffee mugs with logo, face painting, t-shirts with logo, trike race, arm wrestling with cops, kids activities, etc. Discussion was had on whether the Commission should pick a date and then ask for volunteers or if they should talk to City Staff and have their input on a date. Semelroth said the committee should pick the date. Patty Hines would be interested in being on the committee as well as Christina at Oscars. They discussed how their vision is like a version of Fun Fest. Semelroth said we need to come up with a letter to send out inviting businesses to have someone on the committee. Patterson said he thinks the Commission should have more control than that or the committee could end up with 20 people on it. Semelroth said they could then split the committee into groups and have groups focus on certain parts of the celebration. She also said she wasn't as optimistic as Patterson that there would be that much interest. Patterson indicated he wanted the event to be three days. Semelroth said we need to get people on the committee and let them decide what will work. Patterson said vacations and other events could be a problem and City Staff should know. They asked when the next staff meeting would be. Amy said it is tomorrow morning at 8 AM. The Commission asked to be on the agenda. Amy said she would find out and let them know before the end of the day. Semelroth wants to write a letter about it being in the works and get people involved and a list of organizations to send it to. James will try to write a letter to send out and Semelroth will come up with a list of organizations. The commission asked how much money was budgeted for the event. Amy said she was unsure and they would want to talk to Cindy.

Next meeting is August 12, 2024 at 1:30 p.m.

James moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:26 PM, seconded by Semelroth. Motion carried.