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 Bev Daws. Motion carried. Bev Daws moved the approval of the January 14, 2013 meeting minutes with corrections, second by Jerry Seifried.

The History Commission interviewed Sandy Brewer and Vayla Waddington before the business meeting began. Highlights of the interview are as follows:

Sandy Brewer –

* Sandy Brewer moved to Hiawatha in 1957 from Edgewood.
* Sandy is married with two children.
* Beginning in 1971, Sandy worked at the Hiawatha Post Office for two years as a sub. She then went to the Cedar Rapids Post Office for four years and came back to finish her career in Hiawatha as a clerk; she was originally a carrier.
* People used to burn garbage in 50 gallon barrels in their back yards.
* Sandy’s husband Bob bought a garbage collector business where their highest fee was $3.00. They had 600 customers including Hiawatha and would collect garbage in the City on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays.
* Sandy loves living in Hiawatha and can’t believe how much the City has grown.

Vayla Waddington –

* Vayla is Sandy Brewer’s sister.
* Vayla is married with three children.
* Vayla lived in Delaware during her childhood and moved into Oakbrook Trailer Court with Sandy when she came to Hiawatha.
* Vayla volunteered her time with the PTA, Library Board, Hope Church, Women’s Auxillary and other organizations.
* Vayla’s husband Lee served on the Fire Department.
* In 1959, Vayla worked at the A&W restaurant. From 1962-1972, she worked at Rockwell Collins and she worked at Hiawatha Post Office for 22 years, mostly as a carrier.
* Vayla remembers Mrs. Stark had a little poodle that bit every post office carrier. The dog bit Vayla once and drew blood. She told her boss and Mrs. Stark would say that her dog didn’t bite.
* Vayla’s son James drafted a plan for the concession stand at Guthridge Park. They brought it to City Council where it was approved. The City paid James $200 for his plan.

Edie Wheeler asked Sandy what she thought of having no mail delivered on Saturdays. Sandy stated that she didn’t really care. Vayla said the change would affect the part-time employees the most because the full-time people worked their 40 hours a week and someone else would work the sixth day.

**Short Business Meeting**

Upcoming Interviews –

* Peckosh girls with Ken
* HEDCO Board in April or May

Hiawatha Insight Articles –

* Call Graybill’s, February 20th - March

Future Work Session Dates –

* The Committee members will play it by ear.

Metro Studio’s Update –

* The History Committee will have a packet of information for Connie at Metro Studios.

Other Discussion –

* Time Capsule – Steel beam signatures of city hall (look for photos).

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

Dick Larson moved to adjourn at 2:40 P.M., second by Jerry Seifried. Motion carried.

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Edith Wheeler, Chair