The Hiawatha History Committee met at the Hiawatha City Hall in Conference Room D with Edie Wheeler as Chair calling the meeting to order at 1:30 P.M. Members present: Pat Semelroth, Bev Daws, Sandy Brewer and Jerry Seifried. Absent: Dick Larson and Don Earll. Guest: Cynthia Petersen.

Cynthia Petersen of the Hiawatha Today and Marion Times newspapers interviewed the History Committee to write an article on the group. Cynthia said she wanted to write an article on the History Committee in order to remind people why the history of Hiawatha is important. Cynthia felt kids today do not take the time to appreciate history and understand the process of finding things or what to do with them.

Information provided during the Hiawatha History Committee interview with Cynthia Petersen:

* The History Committee started on October 17, 2007 with five members appointed by Mayor Tom Patterson.
* Mayor Patterson formed the History Committee with the purpose of saving the beginning of the community.
* The original History Committee members were Bev Daws, Dick Larson, Jerry Seifried, Clarence Sampson and Don Gabel.
* History Committee members must be Hiawatha residents.
* All History Committee members are sworn in for a term of three years.
* History Committee membership was increased to seven members.
* Several History Committee members have lived in the area for more than 50 years.
* Dick Larson and Edie Wheeler have lived in the area their entire lives.
* All members knew Fay Clark.
* The small bridge in Clark Park was built from steel rafters taken from the old Quonset Hut.
* Stories say Fay Clark named the City Hiawatha because he lived with the Indians when he was a kid and others say it was because he owned a trailer company called Hiawatha Trailers.
* Blairs Ferry Road got its name from a family that ran a ferry.
* The History Committee compiled a collection of photo and newspaper scrapbooks and other history artifacts.
* The History Committee has video interviews they plan to put on the history page of the Hiawatha website.
* The History Committee has interviewed businesses, residents and schools.

Business:

Bev Daws moved the approval of the agenda, seconded by Sandy Brewer. Motion carried. Jerry Seifried moved the approval of the February 9, 2015 meeting minutes, seconded by Pat Semelroth. Motion carried*.*

**Update on Interviews**

Upcoming interviews: Hope Church, Zion Church, St. Elizabeth Church and Prairie Woods. Pat Semelroth will set up interviews with the churches and Prairie Woods for May, June and July.

Bev Daws mentioned Hope Church is celebrating their 50-year anniversary.

**Hiawatha Insight Articles**

Edie Wheeler submitted two pictures of the ground breaking for Hope Church for the April newsletter.

**Work Session**

History Committee members agreed to have a work session for the April 13, 2015 meeting while Edie Wheeler is gone.

Sandy Brewer moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:57 p.m., seconded by Jerry Seifried. Motion carried.

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Edie Wheeler, Chair