The Hiawatha History Committee met on August 10, 2015, 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, Sandy Brewer, Dick Larson, Don Earll, Jerry Seifried and Bev Daws.

The History Committee interviewed Bev Daws and Edie Wheeler about Hope Church before the business meeting. Highlights of the interview include the following information:

* Hope Church was born in 1960 and the first unit of the Church was built in 1963.
* In 1961, four acres of land was purchased to build a Church in Hiawatha.
* Bev came to Hope Church in 1962.
* Hope Church met in the cafeteria of Hiawatha school for several years.
* In 1965, Lyle Kuehl was called to be a minister for Hope Church.
* May 25, 1969 was dedication day of the building.
* They set up a movable altar at 305 10th Avenue to have meetings there.
* When they built the new sanctuary they decided to make the window themselves.
* Charles West was there for 17 years, his wife Mary Ellen played the organ, they had three adopted children, Fritz was very social and involved in the community.
* Hope Church had approximately six ordained ministers.
* Hope Church has people take food down to Green Square Park and work.
* Volunteers take care of the yard work and a part time janitor comes in each Saturday to clean.
* Hope Church is celebrating their 50th anniversary this year.

Business:

Bev Daws moved the approval of the agenda, seconded by Sandy Brewer. Motion carried. Pat Semelroth moved the approval of the July 13, 2015 meeting minutes with corrections, seconded by Jerry Seifried. Motion carried*.*

**Update on Interviews**

Upcoming interviews:

* Brian Fanton from the Coin Shop
* Edie’s husband in October
* Buffalo Cemetery and Shiloh Cemetery

**Hiawatha Insight Articles**

* September newsletter – Zion Church
* October newsletter – St. Elizabeth Church

**Other Business**

Edie Wheeler mentioned the name of the Cemetery off Oak Grove Road is Morrison with Monroe Township. Wheeler also announced that she attended the Mercy groundbreaking on August 9, 2015, took pictures and would like to have someone from Mercy come and talk for history purposes.

The next History Committee meeting is September 14, 2015 at 1:30 p.m.

Jerry Seifried moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:53 p.m., seconded by Dick Larson. Motion carried.

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Edie Wheeler, Chair