

Village of Paw Paw Historical Commission

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Recap of the 8-26-08 Meeting of the Paw Paw Historical Commission

Village of Paw Paw Historical Commission:

Present - Roman Plaszczak, Chairman, 657-7298, 729 Mapleview
Susan Erion, 657-5256, 44316 Woodman Drive
Deborah Klinger, 657-2844, 202 S. Liberty
John Tapper, Sr., 657-4261, 47023 CR 665
Larry Nielsen, 657-3148, Ofc. 111 E. Michigan Avenue
Excused - Karen Ayres, 657-4849, 54191 Orchard Lane
Kevin Hyman, 657-8334, 634 N. Kalamazoo Street
Margaret McNeil, 657-6560, Ofc. 303 E. Paw Paw Street

Other Interested Citizens invited:

Present - Steve Racette, 657-3072, Vineyard Press, 32280 Red Arrow
Excused - Jan Hoehn, 657-3072, Vineyard Press, 32280 Red Arrow
John Mohny, Director, Paw Paw Community Library, 609 W. Michigan Avenue
Robert Hindenach, 211 North Street
Carol Edinger, 657-6963, 41341 CR 665
George Fadel, 657-5055, 51765 Easy Street

Openings for Other Volunteers!

RECAP of the Meeting of 8-26-08

1. The Historical Commission decided to have itself be the Sesquicentennial Commission. With that, Roman will serve as Chairman. Larry is to check terms of current members.
2. The Sesquicentennial Commission (us) will directly sponsor a one-day birthday celebration. This will be Saturday August 8, 2009. Others (clubs, organizations, businesses, churches, individuals) will be encouraged to plan Bookend Events on the Friday before (Aug. 7) or the Sunday after (Aug. 9). Others will also be encouraged – if they cannot do a bookend event – to plan something during the month of August but not on the 8th – the main birthday celebration.
3. The Sesquicentennial Commission also recognizes that some groups, clubs, businesses, churches and individuals, may not be able to plan a separate event but rather may want to assist with some part of the Saturday event. This will be possible.
4. It was agreed to develop a logo by inviting students and individuals to submit sample logo designs for the Sesquicentennial Celebration. These will be incorporated into Celebration items and materials. No prize is currently being planned other than thanks and recognition.

5. The Saturday August 8, 2009 event tentatively includes the following type of events:
Kids Parade, decorated bikes and pets and other things culminating at a community picnic celebration at which all sorts of things may take place. A stage may be set up for events to take place. These include:
 - Bring your own picnic
 - Ice Cream Social
 - Speeches and presentations
 - Sack Race
 - Cow Drop (raises some money)
 - Best Beard
 - Wheel Barrel Races
 - Pie Baking Contest
 - Pie Eating Contest
 - 1859 Fashion show and contest
 - Period Photo booth (contracted vendor)

6. Ideas suggested for others to sponsor and conduct on the Friday or Sunday Bookends could carry a fee/charge and include:
 - Dedications of something historic (Killifer memorial?)
 - Honor someone or family (Gremps, Ampey, etc.)
 - Sunday sunrise ecumenical service on the lake
 - Alumni Dinner, Coming Home Dinner or some such
 - Community Dance (Street or other)
 - Village Players do a show popular in 1859, maybe *Our American Cousin*
 - Churches do a Choir Fest
 - Things they may suggest

7. Steve Racette indicated the Courier Leader will do a special issue of the Courier Leader and sell advertising to support the publication. It will include the events and schedules and select historical articles and items. All agreed that the publication would suffice and no other Sesquicentennial Booklet would be created.

NEXT MEETING:

September 30, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. at the Carnegie Center. An invitation will be publicized inviting others to attend.

ATTACHMENTS

Thanks to Sue Erion you have a copy of Batavia, Illinois and a 1908 Paw Paw Homecoming Week booklet.

PS – Have you checked out the Historical Commission Documents on the Village Website at www.pawpaw.net/commission.html