

Nicholson Heritage Association
Nicholson Presbyterian Church
June 24, 2015
7:00pm

The meeting was called to order by Marion Sweet Chairman with the following people attending: Marion Sweet, Joan Jenkins, Pat Gunton, Russ Gunton, Kathy Steele, Janet Brecht, Tina Barrasse, Bob Baker, Albert Olive, Greg Palaskas, George Penyak, Curt Stevens, Robert Weiler, Stephanie B Smith, Debbie Conway, and Norm Barrett Johanna Lindsey, Michael Wademan, Burt Prahalka, Misty Mecca and Joan Kupetsky.

The Agenda was presented, reviewed and approved.

Minutes were reviewed from the May 27, 2015 meeting. A motion was made by Curt Stevens and seconded by Albert Olive to approve the minutes. Motion carried, the minutes were approved. Everyone that attended the meeting received a copy for their records.

Treasurer's report: Marion gave a brief report; Rick Lochen was out of town.

Correspondence: Marion reported that she received approval for extra insurance coverage for Friday through Saturday. She also received approval from Penna. DOT to close down Rt 92 and Main Street Friday & Saturday.

Old Business

Friday night at the Catholic Hall George Barbolish on behalf of the heritage will host a wine and cheese with music and photos of the bridge. Everyone is encouraged to wear historic costumes not only on Friday night but throughout the weekend. We will also have several bands playing on Main Street.

On Saturday September 12, 2015 the historical site will be open at 10am to the public such as churches and other buildings and organizations in the area. Josh Stull has arranged to have speakers along with entertainment throughout the day. We will have Food Vendors up and down Main Street all day. Also the Methodist Church will be serving a ham dinner starting at noon until food is gone. We will have games and entertainment for the children at Nordal Park on Saturday, also we will have some food vendors located at the park also.

Don Sherwood will provide the horses to pull the Fire Companies Steamer for the parade on Saturday. The Nicholson Fire Company will be the only Fire Company to have trucks in the parade. Other companies with antique fire trucks may be in the parade.

We will be asking all homes and Business to fly the American Flags or Buntings on the 100th weekend.

A time capsule will contain programs, 100th booklet, box car, ornament and a newspaper, the minutes from the August meeting. We also would like more ideas. The time capsule will be buried at the Train Station.

Tony Saxton Balloons will fly over the bridge on Saturday; this will be a colorful site with several balloons in the air at one time.

The local Railroad Club will have a layout at the Farmer Supply all weekend.

The sign beneath the bridge will be finished by September by Scout Trent Phillips.

We will have a press event at the station this summer possibly in June; Josh is working a date, time and location.

Josh Stull has arranged to have speakers along with entertainment though out the day.

Marion reported that the Mt. View Band will play on Saturday. We will have a 22" Chocolate Train made by Chocolates by Leopold Montrose PA. and will sell raffle tickets all weekend.

Marion reported that we will start selling the black canvas bags for \$12.00. Our Christmas ornaments are selling for \$10.00. We will also sell Gertrude Hawks candy bars with the bridge on the wrapper.

The teachers from the local schools received the essay contest paper work. They will notify the students of the contest and send all essays to Marion. We will give \$50.00 prize to each class winner.

Tim Hortman is working on the First Day Cancellation and it will take place on Friday only.

New Business:

Marion has orders for 4 pictures of men that worked on the bridge for relatives. It was also suggested that we order 20 more to sell on Bridge Day 2015.

Norm Barrett Chair of Excursions reported that he is working with Debbie Conway and other Norfolk Southern officials on having the train start at 10:00am in Scranton and arrive around 12:00 in Nicholson. They will have 18 to 20 cars and it will be pulled by 765 Engine. The Train will come to Nicholson and stop on the bridge and let the riders off and them continue to Binghamton and return to Nicholson to pick up riders and continue to Scranton. Mr. Barrett also stated that the train will stop on the bridge for people to take pictures. The tickets will go on sale for the excursions on Monday June

29, 2015. The price of the tickets will start at \$99.00 and go to \$200.00 for Premium seats. The people continuing to Binghamton will be served in the dining car for lunch and on the return trip will be served dinner for \$75.00. People may also purchase box lunches.

Marion announced that the candy bars with bridge wrapper will be made by Gertrude Hawks and they will donate 3000 of the 5000 we ordered.

Marion completed the booklet for the 100th celebration and that Scott Quigg from Pump and Pantry paid \$2,500.00 as a sponsor and the back cover will have his advertisement printed. The photos will be from the Julian Campbell glass negatives.

Josh Stull made the final bridge selection for the bulletin board announcing the 2015 100th celebration and it will be located near Skyline motel in Tunkhannock.

Tony Denaro will do the fireworks for Saturday night a site has not been decided.

We discussed cleaning around the station and making sure that everything is done before the celebration. It was also discussed to have the access road to the bridge cleaned of brush and to have the bridge cleaned of trees growing. The railroad company will take care of all the cleaning on the bridge.

Clean Up Crew: Rick Lochen will take care of the cleanup for the 100th Anniversary weekend.

Greg Palaskas announced that Mike Stevens, Kurt Sussman and he will do the video for the weekend and also do a video of pictures not seen by the public of the stages of the bridge being built up to the completion of the bridge in 1915. The three CD's will be before, the celebration and the last day. They will only charge us for materials needed about \$200.00 and they will donate their time. We will discuss the price at the next meeting.

Bob Baker of the New Age Examiner announced that the paper will do a special section in their newspaper on the Wednesday before the celebration, possible a pull out.

We decided to have only one day September 11, 2015 for the Stamp Cancellation. We decided to do the two arches of the bridge that Tim Hortman designed. Thank you Tim.

Janet Brecht suggested that we put wreaths on Waltz and Reese graves for the weekend of the celebration. Janet also asked if the letter missing on the bridge could be replaced before the celebration. Chip Chappy was the person responsible for the placement of the letters on the bridge.

Janet Brecht also suggested that we have a scroll for people to sign for the 100th celebration weekend. We will discuss this at the next meeting.

Kathy Brecht Steele announced that she has been researching and found several grandchildren of the architects that worked on the bridge. She is reaching out to the family members and invite them to the 100th celebration.

Janet Brecht and Kathy Brecht Steele are doing a float for the Nicholson Heritage Association. The float will have many articles of the past and a special guest or perhaps several guest.

Marion Sweet will speak at the Dietrick and present our memorabilia to the public on August 16, at 3:00pm. They hope to have a video of pictures running of the bridge while Marion is speaking.

We had an election of officers and board of director at the meeting. A motion was made by Missy Mecca and seconded by Albert Oliver to keep the officers and board of Directors the same. All in favor, motion carried. Marion Sweet Chairman, Craig Smith Vice Chairman, Joan Irion Jenkins Secretary, Rick Lochen Treasurer. Board of Directors Marion Sweet, Craig Smith, Joan Irion Jenkins, Rick Lochen, Tim Hortman and Steve Peterson and Bob Gritman.

Next meeting will be July 29, 2015

A motion was made by Albert Olive and seconded by Janet Brecht to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned 9:00pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Joan Irion Jenkins, Sec.