

**Tontitown Historical Museum (THM) Report
for COW Meeting - 02/21/2017**

The THM board met on 01/30/17.

1. **Treasurer's Report** - The Museum CD renewed on Jan. 6 and the 2016 Museum Income was added to the CD, which is now valued at \$205,580.00

The Museum received \$150 for 6 photos to be included in Dr. Stibili's upcoming book about Father Bandini, which is being published by SIMN (Scalabrini International Migration Network).

2. **Museum Studies Project** - New board member Ashlee Bailey's graduate studies project will be a marketing plan for the Museum. Lucky us!! More to come on this exciting project as it develops.
3. **AMA Membership** - Memberships to the Arkansas Museums Association are due. Currently we have 6 regular members, 1 retired and 1 student member. For 2017, Heather, Beverly, Annette, Caroline, Rachel, Kyle and Riley (retired) will have AMA memberships. Jennifer and Ashlee both already have AMA memberships through work or school.
4. **St. Joseph's School Building** - The church bulletin announced a parish council meeting on Tuesday, January 31 at 7pm, to discuss the demolition of the old church and old school building. There has been an anonymous donation of \$100,000 to the church for the demolition costs. Parish council members have recently toured the old school building and it has been deemed structurally sound by an architect.

Ironically, the THM board talked last month about the potential of the school as a future Museum expansion location. Given the recent developments of possible demolition, Allyn Lord of Shiloh Museum suggested that THM approach the parish council and ask for time, 4-6 months, to research and develop different plans for the old school building. There are many different ideas that came up at our meeting: a Museum plus a Chamber of Commerce, or food pantry or visitor's center, or church museum and gift shop. The St. Joseph's School is a landmark that is a living artifact of our community and Tontitown history, and needs to be saved. The THM Board is gathering more information and will share ideas at the next parish council meeting on Tuesday, February 28.

5. **Facilities** - The data loggers are working great! The temperature remains steady in the museum as long as nobody touches the thermostat but the humidity is all over the place. It is evident when the thermostat is adjusted or completely off. The temperature should remain consistent at about 70 degrees. A digital thermostat might be a good option as the current one is hard to access and read.

The next board meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 6.

Board Members:

Heather Ranalli Peachee, President - 479-361-8700
Jennifer De Martino, Vice-President - 479-435-6320
Bev Cortiana-McEuen, Treasurer - 479-361-2609
Annette Pianalto Drake, Secretary - 479-422-7788
Carol Walker, Membership - 479-361-2363

Roger Pianalto - 479-361-2207
Riley Tessaro - 479-361-2607
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