

**Tontitown Historical Museum (THM) Report
for COW Meeting - 01/17/2017**

The THM board met on 01/09/17.

1. **Treasurer's Report** - Final 2016 financials are not complete but THM total income for 2016 of approximately \$15,340, more than doubled the income of previous years! The 30th Anniversary Celebration (and first-ever fund raiser) plus a surprise \$2,000 gift from the Raymond Toler estate were responsible for the increase. The Museum CD renewed on Jan. 6 and the money was added to the CD. Once the final paperwork from the bank is received and 2016 financials are done we will provide a full accounting.
2. **Polenta Smear** - The annual Polenta Smear in November has shown declines in the last few years. We are actively seeking feedback from our patrons about the event. If you have any ideas for the event please feel free to share them with us. All things are being considered. Should we move the event to a different month? Should we have it every other year? Should there be entertainment? Your ideas and input are most appreciated!
3. **Subdivision Names** - We continue to work on a list of Italian words that could be used for subdivision names in Tontitown and submitted a draft to the Planning Commission in November. What a wonderful idea to have new construction reflect a little bit of the heritage of our town! The list is circulating among board members and an update is forthcoming.
4. **Exhibitions** - We have formed a committee to plan a new special exhibit at the Museum. When asked, our members tell us they haven't been to the Museum lately because, "there "isn't anything new to see." If something new is to be displayed, existing items must be stored. Inadequate storage is a huge barrier to growing our Museum. Currently, we have many artifacts in private residences and the basement of Shiloh Museum. There are hundreds of treasures in our collection to display but we haven't proper storage for our items. We are actively looking for a solution to this problem so that we can rotate artifacts, create exhibits and give people a reason to visit and support our Museum. Again, all ideas are being considered and yours would be most welcome.

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

Board Members:

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