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Custodians of the Past, Stewards for the Future

Newsletter Special Edition

June 8, 2020



Community Turnout is Strong for Renovation Workday Turn

Eighteen enthusiastic workers (not all pictured here) came out for the June 6th Workday at the Meeting and Historic Center. The preparation of the front façade for painting progressed well, including the opening up of boarded windows on lower level. A little more scrapping around the windows and pressure washing of the masonry brick, and the sealer/ primer coats can be applied to the brick and lower windows.



Another team of workers focused on the exterior condition around the porch and entryway. The roof over the front porch was removed earlier by the contractor as the valley flashing along the structure had failed and significant water infiltrating through the wall was causing wood rot.



In addition, another team focused on salvaging siding and window pieces from the rear section to be demolished that may prove useful for repairs/replacement in the future. All in all, productivity was so positive that the work day was called off early before the heat of the day. As impressive as the progress and display of work ethic were, the most significant take-aways were the community spirit and comradery of those working together.



Before wrapping up for the day, everyone enjoyed a hearty lunch prepared by several ladies from the community. Small groups naturally formed for conversation and sharing of ideas, interests, and experiences.



What You Can Do To Help

Everyone is invited to become involved! There are 3 primary ways to help – 1) Provide enthusiastic support and encouragement! - even if you personally are not physically and financially capable of providing direct support, you are able to “cheer” for the work being done. Encourage others to get involved! 2) Get personally involved! - participate in the physical activities of the renovation. You will be inspired. 3) Donate financially - material and special trades necessary to complete the renovation of the Center costs money. You will be recognized for this on a permanent plaque in the Center!

Future workdays, typically one per month, will be advertised. Show up! Even if you come and feel you didn’t accomplish much on that day, you will have contributed more than the physical work just by supporting the effort. You will have a good time, and get to know others with similar interests in community pride and improvements.

In addition, certain activities may be completed outside of the workdays due to unique requirements. Some of these may require a trade skill. Let us know what you can do! Feel free to contact us directly at cornstalk_heights@yahoo.com, the Contact Link of website, or by Facebook messaging at HarrimanCHHCO.

Finally, the need for renovation funds cannot be understated. Right now we need another \$1,000 to complete the funding for the demolition of a structurally collapsed room along the alley. Our goal is to raise \$50,000 this year, which is adequate to provide funds for continued renovation work into 2021. The first use of these funds is to prime and paint the Morgan Avenue façade as well as the front entrance into the former sanctuary. Other uses will be to seal masonry walls where seepage appears to continue in the lower level. Part of this is for window restoration, which may also be funded by designated gifts to honor or memorialize others.

There are 4 current opportunities for funding stained glass window renovation and protection along Morgan Avenue and the front entrance porch. Individuals and families can designate their donation towards a window restoration and thereby have a special memorial or honorarium plaque placed on the window. These can be reserved by contacting us for donation levels on a first come, first served basis.

Renovation Donations as of June 6, 2020

