

Minutes of the **February 15, 2011**, regular meeting
of the **Owosso Historical Commission**
held at the Gould House, 7:00 p.m.

Members present: Chairperson Piper Brewer, City Treasurer Ron Tobey, and members Jamie Brummel, Michael Erfourth, Shaffer Fox, JoEllen Hartley, Crystal Smith, Charles Wascher, Lorraine Weckwert (7:03) and Gary Wilson.

Member Absent: none

Guests Present: Don Marrah representing Preservation Owosso

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairperson Brewer.

Brewer read a list of procedures/conduct used by other city boards. Members agreed to an attempt to end the meeting by 8:30.

Weckwert arrived. (7:03)

Citizen Comments: Don Marrah requested the split of funds Preservation Owosso raised in the 2007 Home Tour previously designated to the Gould House garage project be given to Preservation Owosso. Hartley reviewed Preservation Owosso minutes from October of 2007 as well as the Historical Commission minutes of that same month. Preservation Owosso was noted to be dissolved on the state of Michigan website as of October 1, 2010. Action will need to be taken to resolve this status. Also requested was a request in writing from Preservation Owosso. Approval for redistribution of funds would have to be placed before city council.

The January 18, 2011 minutes were reviewed. It was noted that Hartley had seconded the approval of minutes. Fox asked about the garage discussion in January. Motion by Wilson to accept and place on file minutes with the Hartley change and to add the following language to the discussion of budget from January. "There was a discussion if the garage designated funds could be moved to carriage house repairs. Wilson will contact Preservation Owosso which committed funds to that project." Support by Smith and carried.

The financial report for January 2011 was reviewed. Motion by Hartley to accept. Supported by Brummel and approved.

Chairperson Brewer listed four items to be listed on the agenda: Gould House stove, Curwood Festival applications and Owosso Community Players letter of support. Member Hartley asked that also consideration be made to have the March 2011 meeting at the Curwood Castle, of which members agreed. Hartley requested discussion of the Home Tour, but this topic will be deferred to March due to time constraints.

The subcommittee for the Heritage Bridge Plaque detailed the changes suggested for the replacement including the addition of a couple of major donors. Motion by Fox to add a couple of lines to recognize hundreds of donations, including school children, and even those bringing donations of rocks. Supported by Weckwert. Carried five yes, four no. Fox and Wilson will e-mail suggested verbiage to the group. The goal is to have the plaque installed by the Curwood Festival.

Committee Assignments were reviewed from our last meeting. It was noted that all members on the Home Tour committee will serve as co-chairs. Commission members may yet express interest in serving on a particular committee.

The National Endowment for the Arts has a grant opportunity that may work for the Curwood bronze sculpture. It requires sponsorship of a non-profit and a governmental unit. There is a 50% matching requirement which can be in-kind. SAC would serve as the non-profit and there would be no responsibility of funding through the city. It was estimated that the bronze might be in the range of 55-60,000. Motion by Erfourth to submit recommendation to council for sponsorship participation. Support by Hartley and approved.

A budget proposal was submitted for the 2011-12 FY. Motion by Wascher to accept proposal for submission to the city finance department. Support by Hartley and carried.

It was reported that a new range was purchased for the Gould House main floor.

Items from the dismantled garage were stored offsite and have been requested to be removed. It was determined these items could be placed in the carriage house. Motion by Fox that Bruckman's be obtained to move the items with Wilson to contact Bruckman's. Support by Erfourth and approved.

Members decided only to submit a vendor sponsorship for the Curwood Festival. The Castle and possibly the cabin will be staffed for viewing.

In 2010, Owosso Community Players was given a letter of support. They seek a letter for 2011. Weckwert moved to provide a letter of support. Support by Erfourth and carried.

Weckwert noted concern for the Arts and Antiques sale at the Gould House sponsored by the SAC. She requested that the commission be consulted for uses of the property.

The commission has been asked to offer the Castle ornament prepared by Main Street and the Kiwanis. This will be reviewed at the March meeting.

Fox offered his opinion that the Curwood bronze be placed across the river from the Castle.

Weckwert moved to adjourn at 8:38 p.m. with support by Erfourth.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald J. Tobey, Secretary/Treasurer