

Minutes of the **November 12, 2013**, regular meeting
of the **Owosso Historical Commission** held
at the Curwood Castle, 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Director Mitchell Speers, City Treasurer Ronald Tobey, Chairperson Joni Forster, and members Kerry Baker, Shaffer Fox, Elaine Greenway, Scott Newman, Lorraine Weckwert and Gary Wilson

Members Absent: (2 vacancies)

Guests Present: Lorraine Austin and Tammy Migan

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

Wilson moved agenda approval, supported by Fox and carried.

Citizen Comments: Acknowledgement and welcome by Chairperson Forster was given to the guests in attendance.

The communications were brought to member's attention.

Motion to accept and place on file minutes of October 14, 2013, was made by Wilson, seconded by Greenway and accepted.

Newman arrived at 7:02 p.m.

Tobey reported his conversation with DPW Director Mark Sedlak concerning bee treatment at the Gould House.

Weckwert arrived at 7:04 p.m.

Members briefly discussed acquisition of a refrigeration. No quotes were presented. Some recommended purchase of a used unit.

Forster presented the Gould House event following the Glow parade on November 29th. Baker volunteered to serve on a committee for the event with Forster. Greenway, Baker and another individual offered to bake cookies. Motion for \$50.00 for expense of refreshments and decorations was made by Greenway with Baker in support. Approved.

Weckwert was recognized to detail the Curwood Castle Park holiday events. The Cabin and Castle will be open on November 29th. On December 8th, after an Arts Council event, the Castle will host a bell choir directed by Cheryl Gapinski. The cabin will again be opened. Volunteers have been obtained to decorate the Paymaster Building as a toymaker's cottage for "peek-in" viewing. Motion by Newman for expenditure of up to \$150.00 for this event. Supported by Fox and approved.

Greenway left 7:17 p.m. to attend the swearing in of her husband as new city councilman.

Motion by Fox to hold a social event in the Castle as the December meeting. Support by Baker and carried. Those supporting the work of the commission will be invited. Members were asked to bring a dessert or hors d'oeuvres.

Director Speers mentioned the recent Michigan Museum Association Conference in Bay City attended by him and docent Denice Grace. He cited advantages to being a member of the association. Motion by Weckwert to join the MMA with a \$50.00 membership fee. Supported by Newman and carried.

Fox left at 7:39 p.m.

Motion by Weckwert to direct Speers to put together a speaker series for the Castle. Newman supported and motion carried.

A recommendation was made for Security Alarm to be contacted for their input for updated systems. Newman will investigate fine art restoration options, and Speers will consult with the Michigan Museum Association for climate control recommendations.

The membership on the acquisitions committee was updated to Newman as chair, Wilson and Weckwert volunteering serve. Chairperson Forster noted that new committee appointments to be made after new members are sworn in. Motion by Newman to direct \$500.00 from the 2013 Home Tour revenues to refund the acquisition budget. Support by Weckwert and approved.

Members reviewed the communication on past cabin maintenance, suggested photos be taken to document a base-line and wait until spring for further action.

The typewriter donation was mentioned. Also Comstock cabin items have been donated: a wooden yoke, butter churn, candle molds and wooden bowl. Baker also announced her donation of some cast iron cookware items.

Greenway returned at 8:07 p.m.

Weckwert reported replicas of Curwood's castle couches are available to be specially made, but would be costly and prohibit funds availability for floor refinishing. Newman moved approval of previously obtained bid for floor refinishing with one-half of the cost to be from home tour funds and the city council approached for matching funds for the remainder. Wilson supported and motion carried, with Weckwert dissenting.

Since the desire of the commission is to have the castle floors refinished during January, further action may be required by the commission. Newman moved the December meeting be prefaced with a business meeting at 7:00 p.m. with the social time to follow at 7:30. Baker supported and motion approved.

Meeting adjourned by motion at 8:34 p.m. by Wilson, supported by Newman.

Respectfully submitted,
Ronald J. Tobey
Secretary/Treasurer

Deleted: The membership on the acquisitions committee was updated to Newman as chair, Wilson and Weckwert will also serve. Motion by Newman to direct \$500.00 from the 2013 Home Tour revenues to refund the acquisition budget. Support by Weckwert and approved.¶