

MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING
DOWNTOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
JULY 17, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS / CITY HALL

MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER at 6:00 p.m. by Vice-Chairperson Gonyou.

ROLL CALL was taken by Recording Secretary Marty Stinson

MEMBERS PRESENT: Vice-Chairperson Vincent Gonyou; Secretary Philip Hathaway; Commissioners Lance Omer; Matthew Van Epps; and Gary Wilson.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Chairperson Scott Newman; and Commissioner James Eaton.

OTHERS PRESENT: Ms. Sarah Warren-Riley, Housing Program Manager; Mr. Adam Zettel, Assistant City Manager and Director of Community Development; Mr. David Dann, Family Life Services, 224 N. Ball Street; Ms. Heather Rivard, Director of Owosso Main Street; and Ms. Sara Rice, Cook Scholar who is interning with the city.

AGENDA APPROVAL: Motion by Commissioner Van Epps, supported by Commissioner Hathaway to approve the agenda for July 17, 2013.

Yeas: All. Motion was passed.

MINUTES APPROVAL: Motion by Commissioner Omer, supported by Commissioner Wilson to approve the minutes for the meeting of May 22, 2013.

Yeas: All. Motion was passed.

COMMUNICATIONS:

- 1) Staff Memorandum
- 2) Meeting minutes of May 22, 2013

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Ms. Heather Rivard, Director of Owosso Main Street, invited the Downtown Historic District Commissioners to attend a meeting on July 31st at the Baker College Owosso where the national and state consultants are doing a complete review with economic development groups in Owosso. This is a great opportunity to work together as the Main Street moves into a new phase with a new manager. Mr. Adam Zettel encouraged everyone to attend because of the importance of the downtown historic preservation with the Main Street. Please treat this as a regular Historic District Commissioner meeting.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: None.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS:

- 1) 224 N. Ball Street – Door replacement application

David Dann, Family Life Services, 224 N. Ball Street commented on their desire to purchase a less expensive steel door rather than a wood historically accurate door. He stated that he needed to be responsible to the donors and still secure the building; that the commission's higher standard is a burden; that he sees 31 doors from his property which only five doors or 16% are wood. Eleven are steel or glass and 14 are metal. The worst looking doors are wood because they aren't holding the paint. Money that doesn't have to be spent is difficult to explain to others. Please give us a variance instead of us spending so much more. Help us find a way so we don't betray our donors. Mr. Dann listed many other repair projects that the structure needed.

Comments from the board were they need to find a way to accommodate the regulations such as repairing the current door for security; finding used wood doors; searching other wood door sources; talking to city

Approved September 18, 2013

staff members for alternative wood door sources. Discussion involved if the board let this standard be reduced, the organization will constantly request reductions of standards in the future.

STAFF COMMENTS:

Ms. Sarah Warren-Riley introduced. Sara Rice. She has been working on certified local government application as well as educational materials for the historic district. She is from the Cook Foundation Scholar program.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Commissioner Hathaway, supported by Commissioner Omer to adjourn the meeting at 6:44 p.m. until August 21, 2013.

Yeas all. Motion carried.

Phil Hathaway, Secretary

mms