

MINUTES FOR  
RESCHEDULED MEETING  
**OWOSSO HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION**  
APRIL 13, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.  
CONFERENCE ROOM / CITY HALL

**MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER** at 6:01 p.m. by Chairperson Scott Newman.

**ROLL CALL** was taken by Recording Secretary Marty Stinson.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairperson Scott Newman, Commissioners Vincent Gonyou, Philip Hathaway, and Lance Omer.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Commissioners Jeff Peltier, Matthew Van Epps, and Gary Wilson.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Adam Zettel, Assistant City Manager and Director of Community Development; William Harris, applicant / contractor for 201 W. Main Street awning interpretation.

**AGENDA APPROVAL:** Motion by Commissioner Hathaway and supported by Commissioner Omer to approve the agenda for April 13, 2011 with the addition of business item 1 (a) Awning for 201 W. Main Street.

Yeas: Hathaway, Omer and Newman

Nays: Gonyou

Motion was passed.

**MINUTES APPROVAL:** Motion by Commissioner Hathaway and supported by Commissioner Omer to approve the minutes of the meeting for March 16, 2011.

Yeas: All

Motion was passed.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

- 1) Staff memorandum
- 2) Regular meeting minutes of March 16, 2011
- 3) National Registry materials
- 4) City Council synopsis of April 4, 2011

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:** None.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:** None

**ITEMS OF BUSINESS:**

**1) (a) AWNING, 201 W. MAIN STREET**

Chairman Newman identified this building as historically being the Shippee & Smith Building; and most recently, the business Scrubs was located there.

Mr. William Harris, the contractor for this project, stated this was going to be a tobacco shop and the business owner wanted to be able to provide cover for customers wanting to try a particular tobacco because smoking is not allowed in the store. Thus the request for an awning.

Commissioner Hathaway stated the awning would have to be eight feet high between the sidewalk and the bottom of the awning – the building official would enforce this issue. The awning should be made of canvas to meet the Secretary of Interior Standards. Vinyl is not going to fall into the guidelines.

Mr. Harris asked if it would be possible to get a contingency approval.

Mr. Adam Zettel, Assistant City Manager and Director of Community Development, stated the awning would be 8 feet x 42 inches. “Rollin Smokes” would be on the awning.

Commissioner Hathaway requested that Mr. Zettel provide a copy of the guidelines to Mr. Harris. Mr. Harris commented he is familiar with historic work as he had done it for many years in New England before moving to Michigan.

Commissioner Hathaway stated the narrow awning is not appropriate. It needs to be the full building width to be historically accurate.

**Motion by Commissioner Hathaway, supported by Commissioner Gonyou, that the commission not accept the application because it is not consistent with the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation.**

**Yeas all**

**Motion was passed.**

#### **1) (b) CONSIDERATION OF A NATIONAL REGISTRY NOMINATION**

Chairman Newman stated he was bouncing back and forth about this topic. In March it seemed that the commission would be in a bad situation and it looked like we should go to the National Registry. Things have changed.

Commissioner Hathaway stated that the Michigan regulations are better than the national regulations for the tax credits. We should wait until July before making any changes.

Chairman Newman agreed there may be new programs in place in July.

Mr. Zettel suggested delaying the actual filing, but still investigate the national to be ready in case the state scraps the program. At this point, the national could be an encumbrance.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None

#### **COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Hathaway shared his esteem for Mr. Robert Brewer and his history with the city of Owosso. Mr. Brewer passed away recently.

#### **ADJOURNMENT:**

Chairman Newman adjourned the meeting at 7:55 p.m. There will be no meeting on April 20, 2011.

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Jeff Peltier, Secretary

mms