

Minutes of the **July 19, 2011**, regular meeting
of the **Owosso Historical Commission** held
at the Gould House, 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Chairperson Piper Brewer, and members Shaffer Fox, JoEllen Hartley, Crystal Smith, Lorraine Weckwert, and Gary Wilson.

Members Absent: Jamie Brummel, Michael Erfourth, City Treasurer Ron Tobey, and Charles Wascher

No guests were present.

The meeting was called to order at 7:09 p.m. by Chairperson Brewer.

Due to the absence of the Secretary-Treasurer, Ron Tobey, Chairperson Brewer asked Shaffer Fox to serve as secretary for this meeting. Shaffer Fox agreed to the request.

Gary Wilson made a motion to accept the minutes of the last meeting. The motion was seconded by Lorraine Weckwert and carried.

There were no citizen comments.

Lorraine Weckwert stated that the original goal of the Owosso Historical Commission's 2011 Home Tour Committee was to feature seven or eight homes in the tour scheduled for Saturday, September 24, 2011. To that end, she stated that she has verbal agreements from three homeowners who will allow their homes to be included in a 2011 Home Tour. She also stated that, although Baker College officials had previously agreed to open the former Hody House and the caverns at Baker College to a home tour, she has not heard back from the member who was going to obtain approval from Baker College for inclusion of their sites in the 2011 Home Tour. Furthermore, Lorraine Weckwert expressed concern that while the scheduled date of the event has been drawing near, she's been unable to contact two members of the committee who were going to recruit additional homes for the tour, and were going to participate in planning, marketing and otherwise co-managing the event. Members discussed different options including rescheduling the event for a later date or for a different period of the year, or abandoning a home tour for the current year or possibly permanently. Members also discussed homeowners' increasing reluctance to open their homes to the public. Members agreed that each year's home tour should be better than preceding home tours. Based on the aforementioned, members present agreed that the Owosso Historical Commission would not hold a home tour in 2011, but will "aim" to hold an exceptional home tour in 2012.

Shaffer Fox stated that Tom Cook asked him to map, and be the guide for, a bicycle tour of historic points in Owosso. Shaffer Fox stated that Tom Cook also asked him to ask members of the Owosso Historical Commission if the commission would like to become involved with the tour. Shaffer Fox stated that he felt Tom Cook may have been thinking that there could be several bicycle tours of historic points in Owosso, and that each member could map and be a guide for separate tours. Members present did not wish to be involved in bicycle tours of historic points in Owosso – for various reasons including the fact that some did not ride bikes. Nonetheless, members suggested that the Gould House be included in the tour, and that the Owosso Historical Commission could benefit from the tours by selling refreshments to tour participants during their stop at the Gould House.

Chairperson Brewer revisited the offer by the widow of a collector of Curwood books, who wants to donate 5,000 Curwood books (24 complete sets) to the Owosso Historical Commission – if the Owosso Historical Commission will pay for the packaging and shipping of the books to Owosso. Chairperson Brewer stated that she had contacted Bruckman's Moving and Storage, but that they no longer perform the type of shipping services needed for this project. However, Bruckman's

agreed to attempt to find a provider of the shipping services needed. Chairperson Brewer stated that the owner of the books is not in a hurry to have the books removed, and that the owner will precisely count and weigh the books. Gary Wilson suggested that the owner of the books should provide photos of the books, and detail the qualities of the books. Chairperson Brewer stated that, upon her receipt, she will forward the requested photos and details to Gary Wilson. Crystal Smith said she will obtain shipping information from U-Haul and from Two Men and a Truck. Chairperson Brewer said she will obtain shipping information from Davis Cartage.

Chairperson Brewer stated that the Owosso Historical Commission is out of copies of the walking tour brochure, and that the text in the brochure needs to be updated. Chairperson Brewer said she will get quotes for having more copies of the brochure printed. Lorraine Weckwert stated she will update and edit the text in the brochure.

Gary Wilson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Shaffer Fox and carried.

Adjournment

Chairman Brewer adjourned the meeting at about 8:10 p.m.

Minutes recorded and respectfully submitted by

Shaffer Fox