

Minutes of the **October 18, 2011**, regular meeting
of the **Owosso Historical Commission** held
at Curwood Castle, 7:00 p.m.

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

Members Absent: City Treasurer Ron Tobey. Charles Wascher was absent due to illness.

Guests Present: Gordon Pennington.

Due to Secretary-Treasurer Ron Tobey's scheduled absence from this meeting, he prearranged for Shaffer Fox to serve as secretary for this meeting. Shaffer Fox agreed to the request.

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

Shaffer Fox arrived at the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

There were no citizen comments.

The Treasurer's Report was reviewed. A motion was made by Michael Erfourth to accept the Treasurer's Report. The motion was seconded by Jo Ellen Hartley and carried.

Lorraine Weckwert and Gordon Pennington arrived at the meeting at 7:09 p.m.

It was reported that Gary Wilson and Mitchell Spears (a Curwood Castle docent) sorted the between 1,000 and 1,500 donated Curwood books according to conditions of the books, etc.

Gary Wilson suggested that the Owosso Historical Commission should not sell, but should retain, the best of the donated Curwood books – and that a library of those books should be created. He further suggested that three copies of each edition of the donated Curwood books also should be retained for the library.

Further planning for the sale of some of the donated Curwood books during the Christmas season was continued. Members agreed that the books will be presented for sale to the public during an event scheduled for Saturday, December 3rd, from 10:00 a.m to 5:00 p.m., and Sunday, December 4th, from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Gary Wilson stated that he believes the donated Curwood books will be ready for presentation to the public by the selected dates. Members agreed that the books will be displayed in the basement of Curwood Castle, and that shelves need to be set up to display the books. Michael Erfourth offered to provide some of the shelves. Members agreed that the display of books will be set up the night before the event. Members agreed that no food or drinks will be served during the event. Members were informed by Chairperson Brewer that she had arranged for train sets (that were donated along with the books) to be set up and operating for the event.

Discussions continued from prior Owosso Historical Commission meetings concerning the replacement of the "Welcome to Owosso" signs located at primary highway entrances to Owosso. To insure continuity with the styles of wayfinding signage system being developed by the Owosso Main Street Organization, the Owosso Historical Commission previously agreed to delay replacing the "Welcome to Owosso" signs until October of 2011. It was projected six months ago that design of the wayfinding system may be completed by October of 2011.

During tonight's meeting of the Owosso Historical Commission, it was explained that Gordon Pennington's company, Burning Media, was the company the Owosso Main Street Organization officially selected from dozens of competitors to design Owosso's wayfinding signage system – and that design of the system is underway.

Gordon Pennington gave a presentation, which included graphics, of Owosso's historical assets, and suggestions for marketing of those assets. He also showed examples of designs for signs to be used in the wayfinding system. As for the "Welcome to Owosso" signs, Gordon Pennington stated that his firm will design the new signs for free, if the fabricator of the signs agrees to build the signs at cost.

Gary Wilson made a motion that the Owosso Historical Commission will allow the Owosso Main Street Organization and the City of Owosso to develop new entry-portal signs that are stylistically compatible with the wayfinding signs being developed. The current entry-portal signs will remain in place until installation of the new signs. The motion was seconded by Shaffer Fox and carried.

Members discussed setting a fee for users of the Gould House. Jo Ellen Harley made a motion to charge the Owosso Musicale and other designated organizations \$40.00 per use of the Gould House. The motion was seconded by Crystal Smith. Shaffer Fox requested further discussion. Chairman Brewer refused to allow further discussion. The motion was carried.

It was reported that Michael and Voula Erfourth painted all three sets of exterior steps at the Gould House.

Lorraine Weckwert reported that M. J. Seamless Gutters provided a bid to replace the gutters at the Gould House with gutters that will match the trim color and special hangers for \$215.00. Lorraine Weckwert made a motion to accept the bid. The motion was seconded by Michael Erfourth. The motion was carried.

Adjournment

Chairman Brewer adjourned the meeting at about 8:40 p.m.

Minutes recorded and respectfully submitted by
Shaffer Fox