

MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING
OWOSSO HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
Wednesday, January 18, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.
Virginia Teich Council Chambers

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 6:00 p.m. by Chairman Steven Teich.

ROLL CALL: was taken by Owosso City Manager, Nathan Henne.

PRESENT: Commissioner Gallinger, Secretary Philip Hathaway, Commissioner Lance Omer, Commissioner Matthew Van Epps and Chairman Steve Teich.

ABSENT: None.

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Robert J. Teich, Jr., Owosso City Mayor, Nathan Henne, Owosso City Manager.

AGENDA APPROVAL: January 18, 2023.

Proposed amendment to agenda by Commissioner Van Epps to correct dates for agenda approval and minutes approval.

MOTION FOR APPROVAL AS AMENDED BY COMMISSIONER VAN EPPS. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY SECRETARY HATHAWAY.

AYES ALL. MOTION CARRIED.

MINUTES APPROVAL: SEPTEMBER 21, 2022.

Minutes amended to remove Steve Teich as absent from that meeting.

MOTION FOR APPROVAL AS AMENDED BY SECRETARY HATHAWAY. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER VAN EPPS.

AYES ALL. MOTION CARRIED.

COMMUNICATIONS: None.

PUBLIC/COMMISSIONER COMMENTS: Chairman Teich indicated comments are being made on Facebook expressing concern over the status of the Fifth Third Building. City Manager Henne detailed that the owners have a grant and have been working as much as they are allowed per their grant parameters. Commissioner Van Epps reminded everyone that the facade material was removed without the permission of the HDC or the City. It is being requested the plans for the exterior renovations be submitted to HDC for approval once the Building permit has been submitted. There is an open enforcement monitoring the status of the safety of the materials left on the building.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: None.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: None.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS:

- 1) SHPO-American Legion

MOTION FOR APPROVAL TO ISSUE A LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE AMERICAN LEGION AS PRESENTED BY SECRETARY HATHAWAY. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER VAN EPPS.

AYES ALL. MOTION CARRIED.

2) Annual HDC Report to Michigan State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER VAN EPPS TO APPROVE SUBMISSION OF THE ANNUAL HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION REPORT TO SHPO AS PRESENTED. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY SECRETARY HATHAWAY.

ALL AYES. MOTION CARRIED.

It was asked which downtown building is the most fragile and agreed it is the Aviator Jayne building façade on Main Street. Goals for 2023 were discussed. It was asked that both the City Manager and future DDA Director would be involved with HDC. It was suggested the rental rehabilitation grants pivot to a focus on façade grants. It was noted there are currently two vacancies on the Board. An architect needs to be included when recruiting potential members.

It is requested that representatives for the Aviator Jayne façade be present at the next meeting to give an update on the status of the project.

A cover letter and pamphlet will be sent to building owners in the Historic District.

HDC discussed extending their boundary to include Curwood Castle and Comstock Cabin.

Goals for 2023 include: Involving the future DDA Director in Historic District Commission meetings, fill vacancies in the HDC board, have a commission training session with SHPO, find an architect to be a commission member or consultant, establish better communications with the building owners (especially those that are in disrepair), implement a façade preservation plan, apply for a grant. These goals will be communicated to SHPO.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Robert J. Teich, Jr. asked for clarification on the plan for façade preservation plan grants.

BOARD COMMENTS: None.

NEXT MEETING: February 15, 2023.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION BY SECRETARY HATHAWAY. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER OMER TO ADJOURN AT 7:24 P.M.

ALL AYES. MOTION CARRIED.

Philip Hathaway, Secretary