



OWOSSO HISTORICAL COMMISSION
THE CURWOOD COLLECTION

Regular Meeting of the Owosso Historical Commission

Minutes of November 14, 2022 – 6:00 P.M. at Owosso City Hall

PRESIDING OFFICER: Vice Chair Mark Erickson

MEMBERS PRESENT: Commissioners Deb Adams, Gary Wilson, Lance Little, Elaine Greenway, and Vice Chair Mark Erickson.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Commissioner Sue Osika,

OTHERS PRESENT: Amy Fuller, Denice Grace, Piper Brewer, Cora Walby, and Jayne Brown

VICE CHAIR ERICKSON CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 6:00 P.M.

APPROVE MINUTES – September 12, 2022

Motion by Commissioner Wilson to approve minutes as presented, supported by Commissioner Adams.
Passed by voice vote.

APPROVE AGENDA – November 14, 2022

Motion by Commissioner Wilson to add discussion of creating a Director of Historical Programs position to the agenda, supported by Commissioner Greenway.

Passed by voice vote.

Motion by Commissioner Little to approve agenda with the change, supported by Commissioner Wilson.

Passed by voice vote.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

Chair and Vice Chair nominations:

Commissioner Greenway nominated Commissioner Erickson to serve as Chair, supported by Commissioner Wilson.

Passed by voice vote, with Erickson abstaining

Commissioner Wilson nominated Commissioner Adams to serve as Vice Chair, supported by Commissioner Greenway.

Passed by voice vote.

Christmas Party:

Commissioner Greenway presented plans and an invitation for the OHC Christmas Party. The party is to be held December 8, 5:30 – 7:30 at the Castle, there will be no alcohol served, admission is \$15, each Commissioner was asked to help with finding sponsors/donations. There will be a silent auction.

Castle 100th Anniversary:

Commissioner Adams reported on the 100th Anniversary plans. The planning committee is coordinating with the Steam Railroading Institute to hold a wine and cheese event at SRI, tentatively scheduled for April 29, 2023. They would like the Castle to open on March 14, 2023 with the Mayor and State Rep present. They are also looking at souvenir items marking the 100 years.

Director of Historical Programs:

Commissioner Wilson presented for exploration, hiring Cora Walby to serve as Director of Historical Programs. This position would be shared with the Shiawassee Arts Council and could work on the Gould House Museum and a Home Tour, among other things. Amy Fuller stated that the current budget wouldn't support this position. Piper Brewer talked about the benefit Cora would bring to both organizations. Cora expressed her interest in working with OHC. Commissioner Little asked about the sustainability of the position. Commissioner Adams asked about previous Home Tour income. The commission requested Amy to schedule a meeting with the City Manager for Commissioners Erickson, Wilson and Adams. A potential special meeting was discussed.

Financial Review and Discussion

Amy Fuller reviewed financial reports ending September 30, 2022. She stated there is a loss of revenue due to unpaid rent at the Gould House, and there were unexpected expenses to fix the shower and hire a locksmith at the Gould House. Amy asked if the Commission would like to clean the carpets at the Castle before the Christmas party.

- a. Motion by Wilson to spend \$100 for carpet cleaning
- b. Supported by Adams.
- c. Passed by voice vote.

Denice Grace provided a financial report on the Castle.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Jayne Brown shared that the MCAC grant for landscaping at the Gould House was not approved. She would like to reapply for the January grant cycle.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Wilson asked Amy Fuller what the source of information was regarding ADA compliance at the Gould House requiring a ramp and bathroom. Amy stated that the city's building inspector had given her the information but that the commission should have an architect walk through to make sure the first floor could pass a building inspection as a museum.

Commissioner Little requested a tour of the Gould House. Commissioner Erickson said he would follow up with him on scheduling a tour.

Commissioner Adams thanked Cora Walby

Commissioner Greenway thanked everyone for help with the party details

STAFF REPORT AND PROJECT UPDATES

None

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Little moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Wilson supported. Voice vote was unanimous to adjourn the meeting at 7:43 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by:

Amy Fuller, Assistant City Manager