



OWOSSO HISTORICAL COMMISSION
THE CURWOOD COLLECTION

Regular Meeting of the Owosso Historical Commission

Minutes of November 8, 2021 – 6:00 P.M.

PRESIDING OFFICER: Dave Acton – Chair
MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Dave Acton, Commissioner Gary Wilson, Mayor Pro Tem Osika
MEMBERS ABSENT: Commissioner Deb Adams, Vice Chair Mark Erickson
OTHERS PRESENT: Nathan Henne, Owosso City Manager, Denice Grace, Curwood Castle, Kimberly Renwick, Shiawassee Community Foundation Director

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

APPROVE MINUTES – September 13, 2021

Motion by Wilson to approve

Supported by Osika

Passed by voice vote

APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Osika to approve

Supported by Wilson

Passed by voice vote

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

1. Christmas Decorations at the Castle

- a. Saturday, November 20, 2021 at 9:00am decided upon to decorate the Castle.

2. Community Foundation

- a. Brad Barrett, the City's new Finance Director, has asked OHC to consider partnering with the Shiawassee Community Foundation for investment of a restricted endowment in the fund balance. Kimberly Renwick, Executive Director of Shiawassee Community Foundation outlined the foundation's history and activities. This would separate funds that are being donated to OHC to be sure they are used for intended purposes. Once the

endowed principal is transferred, it is irrevocable. Research will be done whether the Agency status can be created and the legality of such confirmed.

3. Refunding City Historic Marker Donation Fund for Frieseke Marker Grant Match

- a. Henne outlined donations that were made for rehabilitation of Historical Marker signs. These funds were for the Frieseke marker on Water Street. Shaffer Fox has asked \$490.00 be refunded and used instead to purchase a historical marker in Westtown at the birthplace of James Oliver Curwood.
- b. Motion by Osika.
- c. Support by Wilson.
- d. Passed by Voice vote.

4. Renting Storage Unit for Items in Gould House 1st Floor – Discussion

- a. It was discussed storage needs to be climate controlled for historic items. The first floor of the Gould House will be ready to rent once things are moved and HVAC is installed. Items should be inventoried as they are packed into boxes.

5. Christmas Party – Discussion

- a. Elaine Greenway has volunteered to organize. Venue will be Curwood Castle.

FINANCIAL REVIEW AND DISCUSSION

Henne updated the Commission on the September and October monthly financial reports and the updates being made to the Gould House. The vision is to continue with the Capital Improvement Plan and the possibility of another millage. Thank the voters for the updates to the Gould House with the sign in the yard and an open house.

Ms. Grace updated the Commission on the latest Castle and gift shop revenue. Many books have been donated along with bookends, movie posters and an autographed book. The new display will be featured in the Independent newspaper. Curwood's great-grandson from California is planning to donate a saddle with Curwood's name on it. ABC12 News "In Your Town" segment will be feature the Castle.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

None

STAFF REPORT AND PROJECT UPDATES

Henne updated the commission on progress with the Gould House project and explained the status of each phase of the project.

Henne updated the commission regarding ARPA funding application. Possible projects for OHC to request ARPA funds will include revenue loss, Castle lighting and Gould House exterior painting.

ADJOURNMENT

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