

OWOSSO HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Regular meeting
Monday April 11, 2016
Curwood Castle

- CALL TO ORDER:** CHAIR ELAINE GREENWAY CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 7:04 P.M.
- PRESENT:** CHAIR ELAINE GREENWAY, VICE-CHAIR JENNIFER MAHONEY, COMMISSIONER ROBERT BROCKWAY, COMMISSIONER TRACEY PELTIER, COMMISSIONER JENELLE STEELE-ELKINS, COMMISSIONER DENNIS MAHONEY, COMMISSIONER CHRIS EVELETH, HISTORICAL FACILITIES DIRECTOR ROBERT DORAN.
- ABSENT:** COMMISSIONER NICK PIDEK
- APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** COMMISSIONER DENNIS MAHONEY MOTIONED TO ADD THE 2016/2017 OHC BUDGETS TO NEW BUSINESS. COMMISSIONER MAHONEY MADE THE MOTION TO ACCEPT THE AGENDA, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ROBERT BROCKWAY. AYES ALL, MOTION CARRIED.
- TREASURERS REPORT:** COMMISSIONER CHRIS EVELETH MADE THE MOTION TO ACCEPT THE TREASURES REPORT, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DENNIS MAHONEY. AYES ALL, MOTION CARRIED.
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** COMMISSIONER CHRIS EVELETH MADE THE MOTION TO ACCEPT THE MARCH, 14 2016 MINUTES, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER JENNIFER MAHONEY. AYES ALL, MOTION CARRIED.
- CITIZENS COMMENTS:** NONE
- COMMUNICATIONS:** Director Robert Doran stated that there was a packet of Curwood photographs – roughly 20-25 – received by the commission from a Curwood ancestor. Doran has been in contact with Janis Durham, a direct descendant of James Olive Curwood’s sister. She donated to the OHC a scrap book containing vintage family photos, many of Curwood.
- DIRECTORS REPORT:** DIRECTOR ROBERT DORAN DEFERRED DIRECTOR’S REPORT TO OLD AND NEW BUSINESS.
- OLD BUSINESS:** **VOLUNTEERS DATABASE:** Director Doran stated that a volunteer database is still needed in order for the O.H.C. to thrive. Chairwoman Greenway will work with several volunteers to maintain the gardening at the Paymaster Building.

CASTLE CONCERT SERIES: Director Doran distributed a financial report regarding the concerts. He stated that as of yet they have not yielded the revenue hoped. The commission questioned the advertising expenses; Mr. Doran noted that the commission approved \$500 for an advertising budget. The commission further discussed concert financials. Commissioner Eveleth stated he could contact a friend for a possible volunteer to save funds.

The Eventbrite page that Commissioner Pidek created - www.historicowosso.eventbrite.com – is still live and selling tickets for the remaining three concerts, which are: April 30: B Side Jeff Deason; May 21: Evening of Baroque Music – Harpsichord, Lute & Recorder

MADE ON OWOSSO EXHIBITION: Director Doran updated the Commission on the Made in Owosso exhibition. The commission viewed the research done by Doran for the exhibition. It was noted that the commission will be in charge of three locations; The Comstock Cabin, Curwood Castle, and the Paymaster Building. The Commission viewed conceptual plans of the exhibition. Director Doran thanked Piper Brewer for assisting in the tracking down of items. The Commission congratulated Doran the volumes of work he has done for the exhibition.

Doran handed out the preliminary budget for the exhibition. He further discussed other fundraising possibilities and asks that have been made for funds. He also discussed possibilities for expenditures for funds raised.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER BROCKWAY, 2ND COMMISSIONER ELKINS TO APPROVE LIGHT FIXTURES FOR THE COMSTOCK CABIN. AYES: ALL.

MOTION WAS MADE BY T. PELTIER TO APPROVE PROPOSAL FROM LUDINGTON ELECTRIC IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,400, 2ND J. MAHONEY. AYES: ALL

MOTION TO PAY FOR LIGHT FIXTURES IN PAYMASTER BUILDING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$500 MADE BY ELKINS, 2ND D. MAHONEY. AYES: ALL

CURWOOD CABIN: UPDATE: Director Doran distributed proposed plans for the permanent foundation for the cabin. There was discussion amongst Doran and the commission regarding the proposed. Doran is still working with H2A regarding the drawings and any potential concerns on the viability of the plans.

Doran distributed the invoice for the preliminary drawings. There was discussion amongst the Commission and Mr. Doran regarding the invoice and options for payment thereof.

MOTION MADE TO PAY HALF OF THE H2A INVOICE IN FULL BY COMMISSIONER EVELETH, 2ND ELKINS. AYES: ALL

OIL PAINTINGS IN THE CASTLE UPDATE: Director Doran distributed the estimates for all paintings being conserved in Curwood Castle. The estimated cost from the conservator for restoring and cleaning the paintings is between \$30,000 and \$40,000 dollars. Doran further discussed the associated costs and possibilities for coverage of these costs. He stated that the cleaning and repair of said paintings will add great value to the works of art. Mr. Doran stated that the repair is an investment in the historical equity of the Castle and the Community.

2016 HOME TOUR: Mr. Doran distributed a handout displaying a list of possible homes for the 2016 Home Tour.

Doran distributed the home tour rack card and stated that it will discuss both the 2016 Home Tour and the Made in Owosso exhibition.

Chairwoman Greenway distributed the 2016 Michigan Festivals & Events Association schedule of festivals. She stated that OHC should consider appearing on the 2017 calendar. Commissioner J. Mahoney stated she had concerns with the cost of appearing in the publication. There was consensus among commission members after discussion that appearance in said publication would be cost prohibitive.

Doran further discussed the advertising budget for Made in Owosso and the 2016 Home Tour. He discussed sponsorship ideas with regard to local realtors sponsoring homes and providing volunteer docents. It was noted that it would be made clear that any homes sponsored by local real estate agents are not for sale. There was discussion amongst the OHC regarding the viability and implementation of the plan.

NEW BUSINESS:

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

MERCHANDISING – COMMISSIONER PELTIER: Peltier discussed her plan, work done, and future work to be done regarding the sale of merchandise thereby raising funds for the OHC. She further discussed plans for the upcoming Moonlight Market.

(COMMISSIONER PELTIER EXITED THE MEETING AT 8:16 pm)

EDUCATION – COMMISSIONER STEELE-ELKINS: Commissioner Steele-Elkins shared an education committee report which outlined committee goals and projects. She provided committee ideas for gaining exposure to Owosso Public School students to Owosso's historical assets as well as local history. Director Doran stated that there may be a prior commitment by the OHC regarding a local vendor with regard to one idea listed.

VOLUNTEERS - CHAIRWOMAN GREENWAY: Greenway stated that she is working on the volunteer database. There was discussion regarding various activities on the 3rd floor of Curwood Castle and displays being moved between the Castle and the Gould House.

FUNDRAISING - COMMISSIONER D. MAHONEY: D. Mahoney stated there was not yet a report.

FACILITIES & GARDENS – COMMISSIONERS BROCKWAY, EBERT AND J. MAHONEY: There was discussion defining the scope and responsibility of the Facilities & Gardens Committee. No report was given.

EXHIBITIONS, AQUISITIONS AND EVENTS – DIRECTOR ROBERT DORAN: See above old and new business for report on exhibitions, acquisitions and events: Made in Owosso, Curwood Cabin, 2016 Home Tour, etc.

MARKETING, SOCIAL MEDIA & PR – COMMISSIONER PIDEK: Pidek was absent, no report given.

CASTLE PARK GRANT: Director Doran distributed a map of the Curwood Castle Park renovation project. He updated the OHC on the repairs, additions, and renovations to the aforementioned park.

2016-17 OHC BUDGET: Director Doran distributed the city's version of the OHC Budget for 2016-17. Doran provided explanation for revenues and expenditures, and noted that little has changed.

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

NONE

ADJOURN:

COMMISSIONER CHRIS EVELETH MADE THE MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 8:44 P.M., SUPPORTED BY COMMISSIONER DENNIS MAHONEY. AYES ALL, MOTION CARRIED

Robert Doran, Historical Facilities Director