

Minutes of the **February 21, 2006**, regular meeting  
of the **Owosso Historical Commission**  
held at the Curwood Castle, 6:30 p.m.

Members present: Chairperson Piper Brewer, City Treasurer Ron Tobey, and members Joane Ford, Phil Heavilin, Marti Lameti (@7:13), Bonnie Snyder, Charles Wascher and Gary Wilson. City resident, Scott Newman, was also present.

Chairperson Brewer called the meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m.

Motion by Heavilin to accept and place on file minutes of January 17, 2006; supported by Ford and carried.

At the presentation of the Treasurer's Report, Tobey noted that the monthly payable report was showing the commission paid the Gould House insurance. The insurance had, in fact, originally been paid by the city and would be reimbursed in February by the commission. No net change would be made to the monthly totals. Motion by Wascher to accept the January 2006 Treasurer's Report; supported by Snyder and carried.

A discussion of the 2006-2007 budget proposal was held. Members discussed the need for castle repairs in the next year, with the uncertainty of funds raised by Richardson. It was suggested that the submitted budget include \$5,000 in raised funds that are earmarked for castle building and grounds. Motion made by Heavilin to present the adjusted proposed budget to city for review. Support given by Ford and motion carried.

Lameti arrived 7:13 p.m.

2006 Home Tour general discussion was held. Snyder commented that contracts should be signed by the end of March. It was suggested that ticket prices remain at the same level for this year to see if attendance success is maintained. Advertising for the home tour was discussed with several wanting to see a web site established for the commission to advertise the tour and other items.

It was requested that the 2008 book be kept on the agenda for future meetings. Brewer noted a company that published a book for a community in the Lansing area. More information needs to be obtained.

Ford left at 7:25 to attend City Council meeting.

Brewer reported that Jed Dingens is continuing to work on a Castle Fundraising Budget, but that it had not been completed for Richardson. Richardson has four meetings with prospective donors in March. The budget will need to be completed before that time.

The Arts Council is scheduling their sale on May 6<sup>th</sup> and would like the Commission to join with them. General discussion was held, including the possibility of holding the sale at the Armory. Brewer will investigate that possibility. An advertisement from the newspaper seeking old building materials was presented and members wish to have this contact made. Final decision on a sale will be made later.

Members chose to participate as a vendor sponsor for the Curwood Festival, June 3-4. Application with \$25.00 will be submitted by the March deadline.

Motion made by Lameti to establish a policy allowing artists to display items for sale by the commission for a 35% commission rate. Support by Heavilin, and approved. An agreement form will be developed.

Brewer made comment that the city had distributed surveys with water billings for citizen input on uses for the armory. She encouraged participation.

It was noted that Memorial Healthcare has been purchasing properties to expand their campus. Motion was made by Snyder to write a letter to Memorial voicing concerns for a consideration of historical interests recognizing a partnership with the community in their actions. Support by Heavilin. It was suggested that possibly some of the most historical of homes could be moved or that materials could be salvaged before demolition for restoration of other homes in the community. Motion carried. Heavilin will write the letter.

Lameti brought attention to the commission of damage to an art student's exhibit at the castle over the holiday period. Materials for the piece were valued at \$100.00. The commission will reimburse the student for his materials with funds provided by an anonymous donor.

Scott Newman was recognized for his attendance, and he expressed an interest in serving as a member of the commission, if appointed.

Adjournment at 8:45 p.m., following motion by Heavilin supported by Snyder.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ronald J. Tobey, Secretary/ Treasurer