

Minutes of the **March 21, 2006**, regular meeting
of the **Owosso Historical Commission**
held at the Gould House, 7:00 p.m.

Members present: Chairperson Piper Brewer, City Treasurer Ron Tobey, and members Lance Ellenberg, Joane Ford, Phil Heavilin, Marti Lameti, Charles Wascher. Appointee, Scott Newman, was present but did not vote as he has not been sworn in as a member.

Chairperson Brewer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Motion by Heavilin to accept and place on file minutes of February 21, 2006; supported by Wascher and carried.

Following the presentation of the Treasurer's Report, discussion concerning expenses charged for February focused on the semi-annual Johnson Control charge for the Castle. Motion by Lameti to accept the February 2006 Treasurer's Report with reservations; supported by Ellenberg and carried.

The letter being prepared for Memorial Healthcare was discussed. Members complimented the efforts of Heavilin, but also offered additional suggestions for a final draft. Newman recommended that specific direction be offered in three areas. The first suggestion was that 710 W. King be reused on site. Secondly, before home demolition, persons be offered the buildings at no cost with the cost of demolition contributed to moving expenses; and thirdly, for salvage of architectural elements if all other options are exhausted. Lameti suggested that the commission be used as a clearinghouse for information or guidance in the decision making process. The commission charged Newman with responsibilities for the final draft of the letter.

2006 Home Tour general discussion was held in Snyder's absence. It was reported that final confirmation of all homes has not yet been done.

Brewer brought samples of historical books published by Arcadia Publishing. A 2008 volume can be prepared with 200 pictures. Arcadia fronts all costs with purchase at 40%-50% discount off the retail price. Six to ten months is needed to prepare the publication. Suggested retail price is \$18.95-\$19.95. Members indicated preference to proceed with this option.

Brewer presented the Castle fundraising budget goals prepared by Jed Dingens. She noted that Tim Richardson will be in Owosso to view the Castle on March 24th at 10:00 a.m. All members were invited to also meet.

The May 6th sale was discussed. It will be held in conjunction with the Arts Council on the grounds of the Gould House. The sale of the carriage will be pursued with the DeVries farm project.

Members gave approval for organizations to be consulted concerning staffing for the Gould House on Sundays during the summer. Lameti reported that Preservation Owosso would staff one Sunday per month.

The vacancy of one apartment at the Gould House effective June 10th was noted. Members were encouraged to be on the lookout for tenants. Heavilin moved that carpet be replaced in the apartment upon vacancy. Support was given by Lameti and approved.

Estimates for exterior painting at the Gould House will be sought. It was noted that D N West will be resolving the front porch paint problem when warm weather arrives.

Ellenberg will check out the problem with wood chairs in need of repair at the castle.

Brewer reported that hanging flower baskets with holders might be purchased with the downtown program for one hundred dollars each for five poles in Curwood Castle Park. Motion by Wascher to join with the Arts Council in purchasing five flower baskets and holders for Curwood Castle

Park, if it will be included in the watering program. Support was given by Lameti and motion carried.

Adjournment at 8:32 p.m., following motion by Heavilin supported by Lameti.

Respectfully submitted,
Ronald J. Tobey, Secretary/ Treasurer