

Minutes of the **May 16, 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 and Gary Wilson.

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

Motion by Wilson to accept and place on file minutes of April 18, 2006; supported by Wascher and carried.

Motion by Ford to accept the April 2006 Treasurer's Report; supported by Lameti and carried.

Tobey reported that Bigger Carpet had been contacted regarding an estimate to carpet Gould House apartment two with the same type of carpeting that had been installed in apartment three last year. An estimate of \$1,639.15 had been received. Motion by Ford to purchase carpet from Bigger Carpet for \$1,639.15, support by Lameti and carried.

2006 Home Tour discussion was waived in the absence of Snyder.

Nothing new was available to report on the 2008 book project.

Brewer reported that Tim Richardson is working on grant applications and contacts for our fundraising contract. He would like the commission to make a decision to consider a reuse of the castle with an environmental/conservation focus. Richardson would like to establish a Curwood Committee and George Hoddy has agreed to serve as honorary chair. Members wished to delay a decision on the concept until the next meeting. It was reported that Richardson has already received funding for an endowed chair in Curwood's name in fisheries and wildlife at MSU.

The May 6th yard sale brought in \$1849.10, with several items waiting a sale decision. Motion by Wilson to designate these funds to cover the Commission's decision to pay the docents at the Castle from July to December, support by Lameti and approved.

Brewer reported that Pat Shaw donated two velvet period chairs to the Gould House and she had sent a thank you note. It was also noted that efforts by Preservation Owosso to move and preserve Pat Shaw's house due to hospital expansion was dismissed due to cost and feasibility.

The Gould House porch steps were discussed. Mark Beattie has given a bid to replace the bottom front porch step, repair damage on the front and side porch and to repair the finial on the rear porch for \$675.00. Heavilin noted that additional finials are stored in the carriage house. Motion by Heavilin to authorize Beattie to perform bid repairs with replacement with our finial rather than a repair, support by Lameti and carried.

Tobey reported that John Archer had inspected DN West work on the porch. It was Archer's opinion that West had performed work as specified in the contract and that the final payment should be made. Motion by Lameti to pay DN West final installment of \$875.00, support by Ford and approved.

Brewer received an estimate for Gould House painting from Bila. The specifications included no spray, heat stripping, intensive prep and 100% acrylic Sherwin Williams paint on an oil primer. Bila would be willing to perform the painting on different sides of the house in different years if funding required. His estimate was for \$14,375.09 for the whole house, or \$10,215.61 for the east and south sides only. Members discussed the cost and the type of paint used. More information on the line of paint to be used was requested. No action was taken.

Gould House east apartment tenants suggest that the kitchen be painted in their apartment after they vacate. Ellenberg will make a determination if he wishes to take on the project.

Brewer noted that the ad had been placed in the Independent publication and that stationery had been ordered as approved last month. She also reported that the Shiawassee Arts Council had paid for plumbing repair inside of the Paymaster Building, with city crews making some needed repairs outside of the building to the water service.

Preservation Owosso, Owosso Musicale, Owosso Garden Club and the Herb Guild have each agreed to staff the Gould House on Sunday afternoon throughout the summer. The 5th Sunday of the month will need to be covered by Commission members.

Extra staffing for the Castle during Curwood Festival was outlined. Tobey will work 10-2 on June 3rd and Heavilin volunteered for 12-2 on June 4th. Volunteers for 2-5 each day are still needed. Ford will work at Curwood Festival office on June 4th from 10-1 to cover Commission obligation for service work.

Members will look at the Carriage House roof after the meeting to determine the status of the shingles.

The library obtained 200 note cards from the Commission for invitations to the event dedicating Curwood Castle as a Literary Landmark. Members agreed by consensus to discount the normal \$200.00 cost of the cards to \$175.00.

Adjournment at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ronald J. Tobey, Secretary/ Treasurer