

Minutes of the **August 15, 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 Joane Ford, Marti Lameti, Scott Newman, Bonnie Snyder, Charles Wascher and Gary Wilson.

Members absent: Lance Ellenberg and Phil Heavilin

Chairperson Brewer called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Motion by Lameti to accept and place on file minutes of July 18, 2006; supported by Snyder and carried.

Gary Wilson arrived (7:06).

Motion by Ford to approve the July 2006 Treasurer's Report, supported by Ford and carried.

Wascher brought a couple of sample books from Donning Company Publishers to consider for a 2008 book. The books retail for around \$29.95 and wholesale about \$20.00. Members were impressed with the quality of the hardcover books. Lameti commented that she liked the samples above what would be available from Ann Arbor Press. Donning would request possible sponsor names to solicit support and would take a recommendation for an author. The company provides compensation to the author. Brewer will make contact with Donning to gain more specifics for a future meeting.

Newman presented two drawing variations for a redo of the garage into a garden gazebo, retaining the style of the present structure. Members discussed the possible cost for the structure in view of future uses and prioritization of funds for other pressing needs. By consensus, members decided that funds could not be approved for this purpose, but that a final effort must be made to restore the present structure. Motion by Lameti to obtain an estimate for restoration and to solicit funding sources through a newspaper appeal. If funding is not obtained permission to demolish the structure will be sought from city council. Support given by Ford and motion carried. Tobey was asked to e-mail Heavilin for a ballpark estimate for restoration.

Brewer reported that website samples from Amber Fuller were acceptable. Members asked for an e-mail of sites to review. Fuller will need a contact to gain information for development of the site. Castle Docent, John Hughan, was recommended for this position.

No contractor inspections have been done on the Castle roof. It was noted that several slates on the turret roof were lifting and a possible source of leakage. Tobey was asked to inquire of building inspector, John Archer, if slates missing recovered last fall have been replaced.

Members discussed the continued availability of several historic homes, one being the Frieseke home.

Brewer reported that a Frieseke painting in the Ray Kroc estate had recently sold at auction for 2.368 million dollars, a record price.

Discussion was led by Snyder concerning status of 2006 Home Tour. Only three homes are firm commitments. Motion by Ford to not have a home tour this year, due to lack of homes. Support by Newman and carried.

It was noted that Bill Mitchell had offered his car museum as a possible fundraiser. Brewer will continue investigation into this possibility.

Adjournment at 8:39 p.m. following motion by Lameti.

Respectfully submitted,
Ronald J. Tobey, Secretary/ Treasurer