

Minutes of the **January 20, 2009**, regular meeting
of the **Owosso Historical Commission**
held at the **City Hall**, 6:30 p.m.

Members present: Chairperson Piper Brewer, City Treasurer Ron Tobey, and members JoEllen Hartley, Gary Martenis, Scott Newman, Crystal Smith, Charles Wascher and Gary Wilson.

Members absent: Josh Cannon and Dick Waters

Prior to the Historical Commission Meeting a Public Hearing was held for the "Walk of History".

The meeting was called to order at 6:51 p.m. by Chairperson Brewer.

Nomination of Brewer for position of chair made by Martenis with Newman giving support. Nomination approved.

Nomination of Newman for position of vice-chair made by Martenis with Wilson in support. Nomination approved.

Motion by Newman to accept and place on file minutes of November 18, 2008; supported by Martenis and carried.

Motion by Wascher to approve November 2008 and December 2008 Treasurer's reports with support given by Martenis. Motion carried.

The proposed Castle brochure was reviewed. Several minor changes were discussed and recommended before production. Motion by Newman to authorize 5,000 copies at a cost of no more than \$500.00; but if a reasonable quantity break is available, the proposal will be brought back to be reconsidered. This motion was supported by Hartley and approved.

The Historical Commission Bylaws were brought forward for acknowledgement as required. Motion by Newman to acknowledge review of bylaws and acceptance as currently written. Motion received support from Wascher and carried.

Members began discussion of proposals desired to be included in the upcoming FY budget, both from the revenue and expenditure side. Members expressed continued support for the implementation of a Program and Marketing Director that would enhance fundraising and provide support for implementation of projects. Members noted the need for a stove, limestone sidewalk repair and improvements to the Washington Street entry at the Gould House, improvements to both Comstock Cabin entrances for proper drainage, and restoration of Castle windows. It was proposed to budget \$8,000 as a goal for a 2009 Home Tour and to increase the Castle rentals to \$3,200 to reflect the activities of a director. July 25 at the Gould House was set aside with a potential fundraising goal of \$1,000 during a special weekend of visitors to the railroad museum.

Members noted that funding for Comstock Cabin re-roofing was in the current budget. Gould House garage replacement and Carriage House roofing were awaiting bid solicitation, also with expected funding currently available.

It was also noted that previous action by the commission had requested a ten per-cent commission from the Arts & Antiques function sponsored by the Shiawassee Arts Council. This commission was to include the ability to use the Carriage House for storage for the event. Motion by Newman, seconded by Newman, to continue this arrangement with SAC. Motion carried.

Brewer noted the donation offer of a first edition Curwood volume, *River's End*. Members approved acceptance of this donation by consensus.

It was noted that only two of the exterior lights at the Curwood Castle were lit at night. Tobey will contact DPW for repairs.

Motion to adjourn by consensus at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ronald J. Tobey, Secretary/ Treasurer