

Minutes of the **May 19, 2009**, 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 JoEllen Hartley, Gary Martenis, Scott Newman, Charles Wascher, Dick Waters and Gary Wilson.

Members absent: Crystal Smith

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Chairperson Brewer.

Motion by Wascher to accept and place on file minutes of April 21, 2009, supported by Martenis and carried.

Motion by Newman to approve the April 2009 Treasurer's report with support given by Hartley. Motion carried.

Hartley reported that homeowners were giving negative responses when asked to participate in the home tour. Five homeowners have tentatively agreed. Members were encouraged to provide names of willing homeowners to the Home Tour committee.

Martenis updated the commission on items that had been questioned by the group. Brewer reported that the Train Festival did not have a rental coordinator to assist inquiries for housing.

Motion by Newman that it is the Historical Commission's recommendation if the Vibrant Cities Grant is not used on the Lebowsky Center; that \$350,000 be made available for façade improvements on historic buildings in downtown Owosso. Support was given by Wilson and motion approved.

Members were informed that the Gould House Carriage House roof work will commence next week. The Gould House garage foundation work will be performed by the DPW later in the year, and the Cabin roof project is still projected to be completed by J. Archer.

The July 24-27 train event was discussed. Motion by Martenis to have the Curwood Castle open during the event 1-5 p.m. on Thursday, 11-5 on Friday, 11-7 on Saturday and 11-5 on Sunday. Tobey was asked to schedule extra docent hours to cover the event and members were informed that additional volunteers would be welcome to participate in staffing the Castle for visitors to the community. Regular admission donation fees will be accepted for this event.

It was noted that staffing levels for the Curwood Festival were in place and that puzzles, T-shirts, three Curwood books, "The Bear" DVDs and postcards would be available during the event.

Motion by Newman to adjourn at 8:35 p.m. with support by Martenis.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald J. Tobey, Secretary/Treasurer