

Minutes of the **October 20, 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, Crystal Smith, Charles Wascher, Dick Waters and Gary Wilson.

Members absent: none

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Chairperson Brewer.

Motion by Martenis to accept and place on file minutes of September 15, 2009. Motion supported by Hartley and approved.

The September Treasurer's report was presented. Motion by Wascher for acceptance. Support by Martenis. Comment was made of the Johnson Controls charge for the Curwood Castle. Wascher recommended Historical Commission opposition to this contract be included in the minutes. Motion accepted.

The Carriage House workday is tabled for the immediate future.

Members were made aware of the November 5th SAC fundraiser sale of Hoddy donations at the Gould House. The sale committee will be renting the house for the event.

Discussion for reestablishment of the "Friends of the Gould House" concept was held. Members noted that it would get more people involved for work projects, allow for purchases and provide assistance with events. Motion by Hartley to make preliminary exploration of possibilities with intent to establish Friends of the Gould House. Support given by Wascher and approved. A small core group will discuss ideas to bring back for approval after the first of the year. Waters commented that the Friends of the Corunna Historical Village had been set up by attorney Bill Brown as a non-profit 501-C3. This requires four meetings of the group per year and additional reporting responsibilities.

Members decided to table the issue of oil tanks to the end of the meeting so that members could visit the basement.

Martenis reported that it was the city's intent to allow Tim Hill and the DPW to replace the shakes on the Comstock Cabin yet this fall. Brewer reported that Jed Dingsens was obtaining information on a contractor who would provide free labor to do the project. More information will have to be obtained on this proposal. Members voiced strong concern that whoever is to do the project should have it completed before winter weather sets in.

Confirmation was received from the Garden Club that the Gould House will be decorated for the holidays. This is planned the weekend following Thanksgiving. Rosemary Magley will be setting up the holiday decorations at Curwood Castle. Members thought it would be nice to open the Gould House to the public at a time that would piggy back with a downtown scheduled event. The date of a possible event will need to be determined and brought back at the November meeting.

Curwood Festival has contacted the commission for the possibility of having souvenir items available at the Curwood Castle. Motion by Wilson to stock a maximum of three

items chosen by mutual agreement for a ten percent commission, requesting that items be pre-marked, with a prepared inventory and money box provided for said items. Support given by Hartley and motion carried with the comment that this was being done as a goodwill gesture to the Curwood Festival group.

Members visited the oil tanks in the basement. Martenis asked Tobey to again request that someone from DPW attempt to secure the tank. Members then toured several areas of the basement inspecting stored items.

Members returned to the main floor and informally adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald J. Tobey, Secretary/Treasurer