

# OLIVE BRANCH SCHOOL PRESERVATION SOCIETY

## Minutes of the meeting of October 14, 2013

Trustees present were Cyndie Gerken, William Berry, Howard Stahl, John Sipe, Jane Manemann, Susan Morgan, and ex officio Paula Crew.

Mr. Berry called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM. In the absence of Secretary Ken Strickland, Susan Morgan agreed to take the meeting minutes.

A motion to approve the minutes of the July 8, 2013 meeting was made by Cyndie Gerken and seconded by Howard Stahl. Motion carried.

In accordance with our Bylaws, Mr. Berry had prepared and handed out copies of the Annual Report of the organization's activities since October 2012.

In the absence of Treasurer Pam Mustovich, a Treasurer's Report was prepared by Cyndie Gerken and showed a balance of \$ 4,108.79 as of 9/30/13. It was noted on the report that there are a few donations that were deposited too late to be reflected in the balance.

Finance Committee Chair Howard Stahl reported that Jan Hillman is willing to help us raise funds and that she feels there are people in the community able and willing to donate if approached appropriately. Discussion followed on several related topics. The pros and cons of putting off fund raising efforts until after the current school levy outcome was discussed. Jane Manemann reiterated her recommendation that we reconsider some of the terms we use as she felt that the term "member " (verses "donor") may intimidate some as they would not know what all membership would entail. Jane also had concerns that the use of "Preservation Society" may intimidate some community members from involvement. It was pointed out that being a membership-based organization and our name (Olive Branch Preservation Society) are part of our incorporation papers and bylaws, and relate to our 501(c)3 status. Susan Morgan asked if Jan Hillman thought that there would be any conflict of interest in the school board owning the building and the separate Preservation Society raising funds for it. Bill Berry stated that Brad Martin was going to check with the attorney on that, and Paula Crew volunteered to follow up. Paula also commented that she was in the building for the first time and saw many possibilities for its future use. She suggested that perhaps an architect's drawing of how it might look could be a good visual to spark the community's interest. Concern was mentioned about the present poor state of the building's roof. The senior citizens luncheon will be held 12/6/2013 at 1PM and Paula Crew will put a speaker from the Preservation Society on the agenda. There was a consensus that we would try to have a special meeting with Jan Hillman before the end of the year. Howard Stahl announced that the membership letters had not gone out yet for 2013, and by consensus of the group present it was decided to wait until January of 2014.

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Under New Business, Cyndie Gerken stated that she had sent the grant application to the Della Selsor Trust that, if awarded, could supply funds for updating and mailing our brochure. Bill Berry announced that he had taken care of filing the "statement of continued existence" for the organization at the cost of \$25. Term expirations of William Berry, Cyndie Gerken, and Susan Morgan were discussed and all three agreed to be willing to serve another three-year term. A motion to reappoint all three to a term to expire on October 31, 2016 was made by Jane Manemann and seconded by Howard Stahl. Motion carried. The position of Treasurer is an appointed one and Bill Berry volunteered to follow up with the present Treasurer Pam Mustovich on her intentions, since she was not present. A motion to appoint Susan Morgan as Secretary was made by Cyndie Gerken and seconded by Howard Stahl. Motion carried. A motion to elect Cyndie Gerken as vice chairperson and Bill Berry as chairperson was made by Susan Morgan and seconded by John Sipe. Each was elected by unanimous vote. A discussion of our brochure update followed and Bill Berry agreed to set and post a date for a meeting to review the changes to be made to our brochure and compose a letter that we may want to attach/include as part of a fundraising drive. All trustees would be invited to attend.

A motion for adjournment was made by Cyndie Gerken and seconded by Howard Stahl. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:25PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Susan Morgan, Secretary Pro-tem