

OLIVE BRANCH SCHOOL PRESERVATION SOCIETY

Minutes of the meeting of October 12, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chairman William Berry. Trustees present were: Bill Berry, Cyndie Gerken, John Sipe, Howard Stahl, Ken Strickland, Jane Manemann, Peter Scarff, and ex officio members TLS Assistant Superintendent Paula Crew and (new) Superintendent Norm Glismann. Guest Connie Sample was also in attendance.

In the absence of Secretary Susan Morgan, the roll was called and minutes were taken by Vice Chairman Cyndie Gerken. After a review, a motion to approve the minutes of the July 13, 2015 meeting was made by Howard Stahl and seconded by Cyndie Gerken. Motion carried.

In the absence of Treasurer Sharon Leathley, Cyndie Gerken handed out a written report (which had been prepared by Sharon) showing an ending balance as of 9/30/2015 of \$ 6,490.37. The report was reviewed and filed for audit. John Sipe mentioned his appreciation that Sharon was sending out OBSPS "thank you" letters for donations. Chairman Berry stated that Ray Lowe will be working on an audit of the Society's financial records for 2014-2015. A motion to approve payment of an upcoming bill from Digital Graphics for OBSPS web site update services was made by Ken Strickland and seconded by Howard Stahl. Motion carried.

Chairman Berry presented the OBSPS 2015 Annual Report as required by our bylaws. The report summarized the activities of the Society, including our continuing efforts to fund raise, engage the community, and encourage the maintenance, upkeep and ultimate restoration of the Olive Branch building. Mr. Berry expressed special thanks to the TLS Board of Education and particularly to Paula Crew for the maintenance that has been accomplished on and around the Olive Branch building this year. The full Annual Report is available on the OBSPS web site at www.olivebranchschool.org.

Mr. Berry updated us on a recent conversation with Jan Hillman regarding the idea of a feasibility study for the renovation of the Olive Branch building. She suggested that we may need to go outside of Clark County to find a company to do the study/report. She also reiterated that we need to determine the intended use of the (renovated) building as that would be necessary to do the estimate/budget for restoration. Ken Strickland had missed our meeting with Jan Hillman and wondered what suggestions had been made for future use of the building. Mr. Berry said that we had discussed using it as an archival center/museum and a community center, and Peter Scarff remarked that he thought the Board of Education would be receptive to that. Mr. Berry has contacted the Dayton Foundation to see if they had information on who does feasibility studies, but he has not received any response as of yet. Jane Manemann wondered what we mean by "restoration." Discussion ensued about fixing up the inside and outside, keeping the exterior as it had been, and perhaps maintaining one interior room as a replica classroom. The other rooms and rotunda could be renovated to serve a different purpose as part of the museum/community center. It was suggested that a college architectural dept. might help with plans.

OBSPS Minutes of the meeting (cont'd)
October 12, 2015

The idea of using the Olive Branch building as an Educational Center was revisited. This could include the Medway and New Carlisle Historical Societies, plus perhaps Enon and other groups in western Clark County. John Sipe said it was past time to make the determination of the building's use and wondered when we might get with the TLS Board of Education. Per Paula Crew and Norm Glismann, we can be added to the agenda of the Nov. 17th Board of Education meeting agenda.

Assistant Superintendent Paula Crew informed us that the Olive Branch roof replacement was completed and Chairman Berry again extended a sincere thank you from the Society to the TLS Board and particularly to Paula for her efforts in following through with the much needed repairs.

The 2015-2016 Della Selsor Trust grant application was completed by Vice Chairman Gerken and submitted by Chairman Berry prior to the submission deadline of August 31, 2015. We should be notified as to any award by the Trust by the end of the calendar year.

Trustee reappointments and Board elections were held as required by our bylaws. A motion to reappoint Trustees Virgil Studebaker, Howard Stahl, and Ken Strickland to three-year terms expiring 10/31/2018 was made by John Sipe and seconded by Jane Manemann. Motion carried. A motion to reelect Bill Berry as Chair and Cyndie Gerken as Vice Chair was made by Ken Strickland and seconded by Howard Stahl. Motion carried. A motion to reappoint Susan Morgan as Secretary and Sharon Leathley as Treasurer was made by Ken Strickland and seconded by Howard Stahl. Motion carried. If he wins reelection on Nov. 3rd, Peter Scarff (the current representative from the TLS Board of Education) is willing to continuing to serve in this capacity on the OBSPS Board of Trustees. He will have the TLS Board re-assign him as an OBSPS Trustee if he is reelected to their Board. We were reminded that the 2016 OBSPS Trustee meetings will be January 11, April 11, July 11, and October 10.

With no further business, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Howard Stahl and seconded by Ken Strickland. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cyndie Gerken, Acting Secretary