

ONRA MINUTES
Bi-Monthly Board Meeting
Tuesday, November 17, 2009
The Ohio Statehouse

Call to Order: President Cyndie called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. The following Board members were present: **Cyndie Gerken, Doug Smith, Denna Johnson, Jonathon Beard, Larry Bicking, Nancy Campbell, William Hart, Scott Hockenbery, Lynn Kartavich, Sylvia Miller, Jeana Paglialunga, Mike Peppe, Elizabeth Reeb, Paul Seibel, Marian Vance, Ed Wagstaff, Mary Ellen Weingartner, Pat Henahan, Frank Quinn, Mary Anne Reeves, and Judy Williams.** Staff member Louis Agresta and TCC intern Anthony Houston were also present. President Cyndie welcomed Association members Bonnie Young, Randy Young, Mike and Mary Manoloff, Dennis Gibson, Larry Himes, and Glenn Harper, as well as our guests including Ann Goff, Jeff Carskadden, Liz Bicking, Harry Campbell, William Kerrigan, Julie Hockenbery, Dani Miller, John Paglialunga, Cathy Peppe, Phyllis Seibel, Linda Wagstaff, Jerry and Jacki Gross, Marilyn Orr, Joan Randall, and Todd Henning.

Secretary's Report: A motion to approve the minutes of the September 22nd meeting as written was made by Denna Johnson and seconded by Paul Seibel. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Denna Johnson reported that we are still not getting in our memberships and renewals which constitute a main part of ONRA's income. Louis Agresta sent out the remaining 2009 membership renewal letters and received 17 paid renewals. Denna also reported that ONRA broke even on the September west end bus tour. A motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was made by Jon Beard and seconded by Sylvia Miller. Motion carried.

Coordinator's Report: Louis Agresta presented the following report:

Ohio Magazine Responses - Louis Agresta reported that there were 102 requests for *Traveler's Guides* in 2009, in large part as a response to the advertisement in Ohio Magazine. Each interested party was sent a letter, membership form, requested *Guide*, and the most recent newsletter. After 30 days, a follow-up letter was also sent out. These mailings have generated 3 new ONRA memberships.

Coordinator Services Billing for September and October was \$8840.00. Eighty percent (\$7071.19) of the invoice is paid by the National Scenic Byway Grant, with 20% (\$1768.81) being submitted to ONRA for payment. A motion to approve payment was made by Elizabeth Reeb and seconded by Jon Beard. Motion carried.

Signage Update - The first sign was unveiled on August 27th at Snyder Park in Springfield, Clark County, Ohio. There are a total of 30 signs planned in Phase 1 of the signage project with 30 additional signs coming in Phase 2. More information will be included in the Signage Committee's report to follow.

Newsletter - Louis reported that the Fall 2009 ONRA newsletter has been mailed out, and additional copies are available here or anytime upon request.

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Old Business: President Cyndie announced that ONRA will no longer be able to meet at ODOT, but instead will be meeting at the Columbus Health Department located at 240 Parsons Ave.

Cyndie also read the proposed amendment to Article III, Section 4 of the ONRA Bylaws that allows for electronic meetings. A motion to approve the amendment was made by Lynn Kartavich and seconded by Jeanna Paglialunga. Motion carried.

Committees: President Cyndie called upon Committee Chairs to report to the membership.

Editing Committee - Doug Smith reported that the *Guide* edits included the addition of a number of sites in Columbus, which increased the Franklin Co. section from 2 pages to 5-6 pages. Doug reported that more funding is needed to publish the *Guides*, and Cyndie added that although ONRA received a marketing grant to print 40,000 *Guides* and rack cards, we are still short of the required 20% matching funds, with a few more thousand dollars needed.

Education Committee - Jan Brady was not able to attend the meeting so President Cyndie presented her report. The Education Committee hopes to complete two projects in 2010. One of the ideas was a National Road coloring book and the second is an information pamphlet for those who are trying to restore historic properties.

Endowment Fund Advisory Committee - Glenn Harper reported about the planning of a fund raising event in the spring of 2010. They would like to have a silent auction on items that people and businesses donate. The event may be held at the National Road/Zane Grey Museum and could include a wine tasting event on the same evening in hopes of boosting auction attendance.

Membership Committee - Denna Johnson reported that she is the temporary chairman of the Membership Committee and she encouraged others to take that role. She reiterated that ONRA is working diligently on membership growth and renewal. She reminded the Board that their membership dues are payable in January. She also brought up the idea of gift memberships for the holiday season by recommending that Board members purchase gift memberships for family members or friends. The Committee will be meeting the first of the year, and in the meantime she and Louis have been working on presentations for small governments and municipalities. She recommended that all Board members go to local governments and make these presentations to invite/encourage them to join ONRA.

Preservation Committee - Judy Williams reported the Design Handbook was the Committee's major priority at this time and they hope to host design workshops. At these workshops people could share techniques, solutions, and problems that they have had and would really make use of the Handbook. They are still looking for sponsorships and funding. Judy also mentioned that she would like to report every year on preservation successes and setbacks. President Cyndie would also like to see this info available by adding it as a new page on the ONRA web site.

Signage Committee - Mike Peppe reported that ONRA has secured the funding to install 60 interpretive signs along the Road from Belmont to Preble County. Mike mentioned that he would like to begin Phase One installations by the beginning of the summer.

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Milestone Achievement Awards Presentation:

Milestone Preservation Award - This award was presented to Jerry and Jacki Gross of Lewisburg, Ohio. They received this award because of their preservation work on the toll road house in the old Euphemia area of Lewisburg in Preble County. Without their intervention, the property (which had been condemned), would have been demolished.

Milestone Leadership Award - Every year, this award is presented to a person, group, or project that has demonstrated great leadership in the area of preservation along the Historic National Road in Ohio. This year's award was presented to Board member Ed Wagstaff of Old Washington, Ohio. Ed received this award because of his tireless work and advocacy in education and preservation along the National Road in Guernsey County as well as for his commitment to both the mission and activities of ONRA.

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn was made by Mike Peppe and seconded by Paul Seibel. Motion carried. Upon adjournment, the group enjoyed a guided tour of the Statehouse.

Respectfully submitted for Secretary Ed Kemper