

Canyon County Historic Preservation Commission

Meeting Minutes

Meeting #132

Date: 5-13-2025 **Time:** 6:30 p.m.

Location: Lake Lowell Parks Office (12996 Iowa Ave, Nampa ID 83686)

Commission Members: George DeFord, Jr (Attorney), Nikki Gorrell (Anthropologist), Dr. Rachel Miller (Historian) Bruce Poe (Architect), Dr. Justin Vance (Historian), Zachary Wesley (Attorney), Chelsea Boehm (Canyon County Staff Rep.)

Commission Members in Attendance:

- ☐ George DeFord, Jr.
- ☒ Nikki Gorrell (*virtual*)
- ☒ Rachel Miller
- ☒ Bruce Poe (*virtual*)
- ☒ Justin Vance (*virtual*)
- ☒ Zach Wesley (*virtual*)
- ☒ Chelsea Boehm

Other Attendees:

- ☒ Nicki Schwend, Director
Canyon County Parks
- ☒ Mike Farrell, Assistant Director
- ☒ Teri Ottens, SRCBSB
- ☒ Gary Keith, Idaho Civil War Volunteers
- ☒ Jay Erb, American Legion

Call to Order

- Meeting began at approximately 6:35pm

Welcome and Introductions

- Justin welcomed everyone to the meeting. HPC members and others introduced themselves.

ACTION:

- **Approve Minutes** – Meeting #131, April 21, 2025. **Justin motions to approve minutes with no changes. Bruce seconds.**
AYES: Nikki, Bruce, Justin, Zach, Chelsea
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: Rachel
Motion Passes Unanimously

New Business

- Review FY2026 Grant Applications
 - **American Legion**
 - Two applications:
 - Chateau Exterior Paint and Restoration, \$21,725

- Due Diligence Survey, \$10,400
- HPC members briefly reviewed the application. Jay answered questions.
- Members noted that the application was missing proof of nonprofit or 501(c)(3) status, and a copy of Steve Trout's quote for the work. Jay is going to send those items to Chelsea.
- **Snake River Canyon Scenic Byway**
 - Two applications:
 - Snake River Canyon Scenic Byway Tour, \$3,000
 - Snake River Canyon Scenic Byway Sign Project, \$4,000
 - Teri introduced the projects and answered questions.
 - Commission asked that Teri get letters of support from those property owners who will allow the group to place signs on their property.
- **Idaho Civil War Volunteers**
 - Application for Cannon Carriage for a Model 1841 Mountain Howitzer, \$8,300
 - Gary introduced the project and answered questions from the HPC members.
- **Canyon County Historical Society**
 - Two applications:
 - Nampa Train Depot Heating and Air Conditioning Project, \$9,187
 - Bruce mentioned that when installing the duct work for an HVAC system, it is important that the contracts are monitored to ensure that no damage is done to the building. Chelsea is going to ask the applicants if their contractor has experience with historic buildings.
 - Nampa Train Depot Restrooms Restoration Project, \$17,900
 - HPC discussed concerns about the accuracy of restoration plans. Questions about the costs of materials, and what obligations for ADA accessibility. Chelsea is going to take these questions to the grant applicants.
- **Melba Valley Historical Society**
 - Application for Interpretive Signs for Melba Valley Museum, \$18,370
 - Commission briefly reviewed application.
- **Historical Society of Middleton**
 - Application for Interpretive Sign for Trolley Station Grounds, \$5,900
 - Commission did not see a letter of support from the property owners. Chelsea is going to ask the grant applicants for proof of permission to put sign there.
- **Nampa Library Foundation**
 - Application for Microfilm Reader, \$10,000
 - HPC briefly discussed the application.

- **Orma J. Smith Museum**
 - Application for Fossils of Southern Idaho Exhibit and Fossil Preservation, \$15,046
 - HPC briefly discussed the application.
- **Parma Library**
 - Two applications:
 - Due Diligence Survey, \$13,900
 - National Register Nomination for Parma Library, \$7,960
 - HPC briefly discussed the applications.
- **PEO**
 - Two applications:
 - Exterior Painting of the Dorman Mansion/PEO Chapter House, \$16,505
 - PEO Chapter House Dining Room Renovation, \$10,720
 - The commission wondered if the organization had any historic photos of the interior, to help determine what the room should look like. Bruce mentioned that there are interior designers who work with historic interiors. Chelsee is going to ask the grant applicants about this.
 - Members discussed if there may be danger in pressure washing the historic wood of the building. Chelsee mentioned that the application has gone to SHPO for review, and they can weigh in with their expertise.
 - Priority was not specified between the two projects. Chelsee is going to ask the applicant about this as well.
- **Whittenberger Planetarium, College of Idaho**
 - Application for LED Moon Projector Conversion, \$550
 - HPC discussed how this application fit into the grant requirements.
- **Discussions on ranking**
 - Members discussed the best way to rank the projects according to the categories selected last year (urgent, high, medium, and low priority). It was decided that a survey would be sent out to members to vote on which category each project would fall into.
 - Based on that survey, Chelsee would sent out another form that would allow members to rank each project in the categories they were voted into (urgent, high, medium, and low priority).

Old Business

- Project Updates
 - Snake River Canyon Preservation Assessment
 - Chelsee and Nicki met with Jeannie from HRA to discuss the trajectory of the contract, since no property owners attended the information meeting in April. The group decided that the report that HRA will produce will be more robust, to take up for the remaining hours on the contract. Timeline of report submission to be determined.

Public Comments

Adjourn

- **Bruce motions to end the meeting, Rachel seconds.**

AYES: Rachel, Bruce, Justin, Zach, Chelsea

NOES: None

Motion passes.

Meeting adjourned at 7:56pm