

# Canyon County Historic Preservation Commission

## Meeting Minutes

### Meeting #133

**Date:** 6-10-2025      **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. (*virtual*)
- ☒ Nikki Gorrell (*virtual, partial attendance*)
- ☒ Rachel Miller (*virtual, partial attendance*)
- ☒ Bruce Poe (*virtual*)
- ☒ Justin Vance (*virtual*)
- ☒ Zach Wesley (*virtual, partial attendance*)
- ☒ Chelsea Boehm

#### Other Attendees:

- ☒ Nicki Schwend, Director  
Canyon County Parks
- ☒ Mike Farrell, Assistant Director
- ☒ Nicholas Bowden, College of Idaho  
intern with Canyon County Parks
- ☒ Alan Hochhalter, Canyon County  
Historical Society
- ☒ Linda Morton-Keithley, Melba Valley  
Historical Society

#### Call to Order

- Meeting began at approximately 6:30pm

#### Welcome and Introductions

- Chelsea welcomed everyone to the meeting, and introduced Nick Bowden, who will be interning for the department. Everyone else introduced themselves.

#### ACTION:

- **Approve Minutes** – Meeting #132, May 13, 2025. **Bruce motions to approve minutes with no changes. George seconds.**  
**AYES:** George, Nikki, Rachel, Bruce, Justin, Zach, Chelsea  
**NOES:** None  
**ABSTAIN:** None  
**Motion Passes Unanimously**

#### New Business

- Review FY2026 Grant Rankings
- **ACTION: Select FY2026 Grant Applications for Recommendation to the Canyon**

## County Board of Commissioners

- Zach raised concerns about projects ranked 8, 14, 15, and 16 due to them meeting the requirements of the statute.
  - Idaho PEO applications
    - This building is not widely accessible to the public.
  - Whittenberger Planetarium
    - This application is not directly in line with any of the four parts of the statute for collecting tax levy
      - Discussion followed on the use of the historic planetarium, and how it could be argued that the project fit the parameters that way.
  - Idaho Civil War Volunteers,
    - This group does not do a majority work in Canyon County.
- Bruce asked about how much money would be available, if the Commissioners collected the full .012 percent of tax dollars.
  - Nicki Schwend talked about her understanding of what this number might be.
  - A discussion followed about how we can increase the amount that is being collected from property taxes.
- **Bruce motions to approve the ranked grant application list for recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners. George seconds.**

**AYES:** George, Nikki, Rachel, Bruce, Justin, Chelsee, Zach (*with limits, see below*)

**NOES:** None

**ABSTAIN:** Zach abstains on supporting the inclusion of projects ranked 14, 15 and 16 due to his concerns described above.

**Motion passes.**

- Debrief on Ranking Process
  - Chelsee asked for feedback on the Google forms that she provided to HPC members to determine the ranking of the applications. She acknowledged that she made a mistake the first time the survey was sent out, and left one project off the list.
    - Bruce said it was it was a quick, easy and efficient method.
    - Nikki said it was a good method, aside from the project being left off.

## Old Business

- Project Updates
  - Karcher Tower project is on indefinite hold, so the County won't be receiving the \$20,000 of mitigation funds that were previously agreed upon.

## Public Comments

- Before the meeting ended, Bruce discussed the recent meeting of the Canyon County HPC with members of the Ada County Historic Preservation Council. Three members of the HPC (Rachel, Bruce, and Chelsee) visited the Schick-Ostolasa Homestead near

Boise, and met members from the Ada County HPC. Jay Karamales, who is a member of the Ada County HPC and the historian for the Dry Creek Historical Society, gave a tour. Bruce remarked that it was a positive experience and he enjoyed it.

### **Adjourn**

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

**AYES:** George, Bruce, Justin, Chelsea

**NOES:** None

**Motion passes.**

**Meeting adjourned at 7:27pm**