

Canyon County Historic Preservation Commission

Meeting Minutes

Meeting #144

Date: 08-18-2026 **Time:** 6:30 pm

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

Commission Members: Dr. Cody Carlson (Historian), George DeFord, Jr (Attorney), Nikki Gorrell (Anthropologist), Mari Harris (Historian), Dr. Rachel Miller (Historian), Bruce Poe (Architect), Chelsea Boehm (Canyon County Staff Rep.)

Commission Members in Attendance:

- ☐ Cody Carlson
- ☒ George DeFord, Jr. (*virtual*)
- ☒ Nikki Gorrell (*virtual*)
- ☒ Mari Harris (*virtual*)
- ☐ Rachel Miller
- ☐ Bruce Poe
- ☒ Chelsea Boehm

Other Attendees:

- ☒ Nicki Schwend, Director, Canyon County Parks
- ☒ Mike Farrell, Assistant Director, Canyon County Parks
- ☒ Jay Erb, American Legion Post 18

Call to Order

- o Meeting began at 6:32pm.

Welcome and Introductions

Approve Minutes

- o Chelsea noted that there was an error with the July meeting minutes, and that a sentence was incomplete.
- o **ACTION: George motions to approve the July 2026 meeting minutes with the noted correction. Nikki seconds.**
 - AYES:** George, Nikki, Mari, Chelsea
 - NOES:** None
 - ABSTAIN:** None
 - Motion Passes.**

New Business

- o Proposed Changes to Section 106
 - Chelsea and Nicki Schwend summarized the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's proposed changes to the implementation of Section 106. They addressed specifically how this would impact the role of the Historic Preservation Commission, and members of the public, when it comes to federal projects that impact historical and archaeological resources. They summarized where the proposed changes stand, and what the next steps were in that review process.

- Nikki Gorrell suggested that the proposed changes would be a good poster topic for the upcoming Idaho Archaeological Society Conference in October.
- o September Meeting Location TBD
 - Chelsee told the commission that the admin building will not be available for the September meeting, so she will update everyone on the meeting's location
- o 2026 CLG Recertification
 - Chelsee explained that as part of being a Certified Local Government (CLG), the county must be recertified about every four years. Alexis Matrone from the Idaho State Historic Preservation Office had sent the recertification forms, which Chelsee and Nicki completed and submitted.
 - Chelsee reviewed the requirements of the CLG status that the group must prove are being met.

Old Business

- o Mitigation
 - Chelsee and Nicki summarized a visit by archaeologists from the Bureau of Land Management and the Bureau of Reclamation to Celebration Park. The archaeologists traveled to the park to see petroglyphs and discuss potential Section 106 mitigation in regards to the Gateway West project.
- o Grants
 - Chelsee shared that the Parks department received a Historic Properties Mitigation Bank (HPMB) grant from Preservation Idaho for \$12,000 to conduct an engineering study on the historic Guffey Bridge. The work will start after the new fiscal year in October.
- o Youth Membership
 - No updates
- o Events
 - Nicki reminded everyone of the upcoming Idaho Archaeological Society conference on October 17 at the College of Western Idaho.

Adjourn

- o **George motioned to adjourn the meeting. Mari seconded.** Meeting ended at 7:00pm.