



Pierre/Ft. Pierre Historic Preservation Commission

April 2025 Minutes

*April 15, 2025, meeting at the Pierre Senior Center, 401 West Pleasant Drive, Pierre, SD 57501
Meeting called to Order by President Buscher at 12:04pm CSDT.*

In Attendance

Commission Members: President Kelli Buscher, Treasurer Donna Leslie, Secretary Robert Kean, Beth Thompson, Ted Spencer, Patti Duffy, Alan Haarstad

Guests:

Meeting working documents were referred to and reviewed in preparation for Commission discussion.

Commission Members Volunteer Hours were recorded.

Volunteer Hours: June 1, 2024 – March 18, 2025 = 283.5

Approval of Minutes

The March 18, 2025 Commission Revised Draft Minutes were reviewed. There being no further additions or corrections offered, Beth Thompson moved, Alan Haarstad seconded, that the Pierre/Ft. Pierre Historic Preservation Commission (PFPHPC) March 19, 2025 Minutes be approved and distributed as presented.

MOTION PASSED

Financial Planning Document Review

Commission Members reviewed the PFPHPC Financial Planning Document dated April 14, 2025 made available to the Commission prior to the meeting and further accompanying materials including updates relating to invoices received, those submitted for payment and those paid, membership fees paid, anticipated commitments of unallocated funds and budget related items to consider prior to the end of the fiscal year on May 31, 2025. Treasurer Leslie further noted that an invoice was received for the annual Verendrye Monument and Fort Pierre Chouteau maintenance contract from the City of Ft. Pierre in the amount of \$8,000.00 that will need the Commission's attention.

MOTION: Ted Spencer moved, Beth Thompson seconded that \$8,000.00 be expended from Budget Category #447 to pay the invoice submitted by the City of Ft. Pierre for the Verendrye Monument and Fort Pierre Chouteau annual site maintenance contract obligation covering the 2025 contract period.

MOTION PASSED

Old Business: 100th SD State Legislative Session Booklet Distribution

Commission Members shared on their efforts in distributing the recently published Commission booklet, “South Dakota Women in Legislative History.” Although the initial printing was small, the booklet was widely distributed. The initial publication run has been completely distributed or spoken for. Based on its popularity, another publication of booklets is planned for (please refer to “Booklet Printing Status”, below).

Presentation to Pierre/Ft. Pierre City Councils

President Buscher updated the Commission on her presentations to the Ft. Pierre and Pierre City Commissions on April 7 and 8. Her presentation included an overview of the Commission’s origins and composition; its purpose in fulfilling a needed focus in the communities; and, many examples of the Commission’s completed and current activities. The presentation also provided an opportunity to distribute a copy of the “South Dakota Women in Legislative History” booklet to the commission members and invite them to attend the Brad Tennant presentation on July 10, 2025 at 7:00pm CSDT at the Moose Lodge in Ft. Pierre. The City Commissions thanked the PFPHPC for its completed activities and ongoing meaningful contribution to the communities.

New SHPO Grant Application

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) grant application was submitted. The Commission is awaiting further information on its status.

Brad Tennant/Tales on the River Event July 10, 2025

Commission Member Robert Kean updated the Commission on the status of a SD Humanities Council/Speakers Bureau grant application to sponsor Mr. Brad Tennant on July 10th. A grant was submitted to the SD Humanities Council. A \$50.00 fee invoice to cover the Commission’s costs to the Speakers Bureau was presented to the City of Pierre Finance Office for payment. Mr. Tennant’s presentation will address fur trade activities in the northern plains from the Verendrye brothers to the Lewis and Clark Expedition, to the Arikara wars of 1843. The free event will take place at the Moose Lodge, Ft. Pierre, SD starting at 7:00pm CSDT.

Booklet Printing Status

Commission Members discussed the Commission’s current booklet inventory and prior reprinting discussions to determine what booklets would be reprinted at this time.

MOTION: Patti Duffy moved, Alan Haarstad seconded, that funds be expended from Budget Category #447 for booklet reprinting as follows:

“Pierre Historic Homes” - \$1,500.00

“South Dakota Women in Legislative History” - \$1,500.00

“Pierre – Ft. Pierre Driving Tour” - \$500.00

MOTION PASSED

New Business: 'Fort Pierre Trader Days' Booth – August 8-9, 2025

A member of the Ft. Pierre committee in charge of organizing the “Fort Pierre Trader Days” on August 8-9, 2025 invited the PFPHPC to sponsor a booth at the event. After discussion, by consensus, the Commission agreed to continue discussing its participation at the event at the Commission’s May meeting.

Other Business: 250th United States Anniversary

President Buscher noted that the United States Semiquincentennial is approaching and invited Commission Members to think of efforts to commemorate the event. Suggestions offered included a booklet and speaker.

Cedar Hill Cemetery

Commission Member Patti Duffy updated the Commission on recent activities of the Ft. Pierre Cedar Hill Cemetery Board. At the Board’s most recent meeting, they discussed progress in its efforts to place a kiosk at the cemetery entrance to provide several types of related information including who is interred and location maps. The Board discussed an interest in establishing a section of the cemetery to be offered for pet burials. The Board also discussed a booklet on the Cedar Hill Cemetery that is being developed. Patti Duffy will convey to the Board the Commission’s interest in assisting with the booklet’s publishing.

Meeting Adjourned

Meeting adjourned at 12:49pm CSDT.

NEXT MEETING DATE: May 20, 2025 at 12pm noon CSDT at the Pierre Senior Center, 401 West Pleasant Drive, Pierre, SD 57501.

**PIERRE – FT. PIERRE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
C/O: PIERRE CITY HALL
2301 PATRON PARKWAY
PIERRE, SD 57501
605.773.7407**

**EMAIL: INFO@HISTORICPIERREFORTPIERRE.COM
WEBSITE: <HTTPS://HISTORICPIERREFORTPIERRE.COM>**