



Pierre/Ft. Pierre Historic Preservation Commission

**March 2025 Minutes**

---

*March 18, 2025 meeting at the Pierre Senior Center, 401 West Pleasant Drive, Pierre, SD 57501  
Meeting called to Order by President Buscher at 1:02pm CSDT.*

---

**In Attendance**

Commission Members: President Buscher, Treasurer Donna Leslie, Secretary Robert Kean, Alan Haarstad, Patti Duffy, Shirley Swanson, Ted Spencer

Guests:

Meeting working documents were referred to and reviewed in preparation for Commission discussion including additional financial informative documents, a selection of previously published Commission booklets, and information on upcoming historic related meetings and events.

Commission Members Volunteer Hours were recorded.

Volunteer Hours: June 1, 2024 – February 19, 2025 = 254.

---

**Approval of Minutes**

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

MOTION PASSED

---

**Financial Planning Document Review**

Commission Members reviewed the PFPHPC Financial Planning Document dated March 15, 2025 made available to the Commission prior to the meeting and further accompanying materials including updates relating to invoices submitted for payment, budget related items to consider prior to the end of the fiscal year on May 31, 2025, registration details for the annual State Historical Society Conference and Volunteer Hours recorded to date. Treasurer Leslie further noted the annual membership dues to the State Historical Society, Verendrye Museum in Ft. Pierre and Oahe Chapel Society that will be forthcoming and a bill for the publishing of the "South Dakota Women in Legislative History" booklet. Discussion continued about contacting SHPO regarding transferring funds between budget line items within a budget category and the feasibility of and costs relating to reviewing the Commission's website for revisions, updating and refreshing the information.

---

**Old Business:** 100<sup>th</sup> South Dakota State Legislative Session Booklet

---

President Buscher updated the Commission on the printing and distribution of the booklet, “South Dakota Women in Legislative History” to help commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> state Legislative Session. With the assistance of the local Zonta Club, the booklet was provided to the state legislators and placed for distribution at locations within the state capitol building. The booklet will be distributed further to the Pierre and Ft. Pierre city commissions, high schools and become part of the Commission’s regular informational distribution routine.

---

### PFPHPC Booklet Inventory/Reprinting

---

Commission Members reviewed the Publication Inventory and discussed which booklets will be reprinted at this time. Within the discussion, Commission Member Patti Duffy updated the Commission on her efforts to review the material in the “Ft. Pierre Historic Homes and Businesses” booklet for accuracy and the potential to include additional information about the Ft. Pierre community. President Buscher will contact the printer to coordinate the booklet reprinting.

MOTION: Alan Haarstad moved, Ted Spencer seconded, that up to \$2,000.00 be expended to reprint the “Lewis & Clark in the Pierre and Fort Pierre Area” booklet and up to \$2,000.00 be expended to reprint the “Pierre – Fort Pierre Driving Tour” booklet from Budget Category #447.

MOTION PASSED

---

### Presentations to Pierre/Ft. Pierre City Councils

---

President Buscher will present an informational update on Commission activities to the Pierre and Ft. Pierre city commissions in April. The Ft. Pierre presentation will be on April 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm CSDT and the Pierre presentation will be on April 8 at 5:30pm CSDT.

---

### Ft. Pierre Chouteau Sign

---

Commission Member Kean updated the Commission on activities to replace the Ft. Pierre Chouteau sign located along Highway 1806 at the intersection with Ft. Chouteau Road. Commission Members engaged in initial discussions regarding the purpose of the sign, anticipated costs to complete and ideas for its content. Tara Berg, who collaborated with the Commission on previous projects to place informational signs in the Pierre and Ft. Pierre communities has offered to provide professional design services to the effort. The city of Ft. Pierre has been contacted to determine the amount of directional information it would like on the proposed sign. Further updates will be provided as the project develops.

---

### New SHPO Grant Application (due 3.31.25)

---

The new SHPO grant for the fiscal year beginning June 1, 2025, previously sent to Commission Members by President Buscher was reviewed and discussed. Discussion included considering the impact of the public interest sector funding cuts currently underway at the national level and its “trickle down” results at the state level. The consensus of the Commission is to actively continue its foundational mission in the Pierre/Ft. Pierre communities. Adjustments in the new grant request to ongoing budget categories to deal with anticipated cost increases were noted including, for example, reprinting booklets, website maintenance, conferences, and memberships.

MOTION: Ted Spencer moved, Patti Duffy seconded, that the Pierre/Ft. Pierre Historic Preservation Commission submit the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) grant for FY2026 as presented and reviewed.

MOTION PASSED

---

### 2025 State Historical Society Annual Conference

---

The annual conference will be held in Deadwood May 7-9, 2025. The conference information is out, and registrations can be made. Commission Members Spencer and Kean have expressed an interest in attending. Discussion followed on the process to submit expenditures to the Pierre city offices for reimbursement.

MOTION: Alan Haarstad moved, Donna Leslie seconded, that funds be expended from Budget Category #447 to cover the costs of two Commission Members to attend the State Historical Society Annual Conference in Deadwood.

MOTION PASSED

---

### **New Business:** West River History Conference (October 2-3, 2025 – Deadwood)

---

The West River History Conference this year will be held at the Muley Lodge located in Deadwood, SD. Further information is available at the conference's website.

---

### Historic Speakers/Tales on the River

---

Commission Member Kean updated the Commission on efforts to have Mr. Brad Tennant return to the Pierre/Ft. Pierre community to present a program on the fur trade in the area. Mr. Tennant is available on July 10 to speak. Kean has been in contact with the Short Grass Arts Council which presents the Tales on the River program during the summer months. The Short Grass Arts Council would like to join PFPHPC in hosting and promoting the event. To facilitate the collaboration with the Arts Council, and secure funding PFPHPC will apply to the SD Humanities Council for a grant to cover Mr. Tennant's expenses. Mr. Tennant is a member of the SD Humanities Council's Speaker Bureau. The grant application to the Speakers Bureau has a \$50.00 fee. The Commission will consider an honorarium to Mr. Tennant later.

MOTION: Ted Spencer moved, Alan Haarstad seconded, that \$50.00 be expended from Budget Category #447 to pay for the SD Humanities Council grant application for Mr. Tennant's speaking costs and expenses to present on July 10, 2025.

MOTION PASSED

---

### Annual Memberships

---

Commission Members reviewed its membership in the State Historical Society, Verendrye Museum in Ft. Pierre, and Oahe Chapel Society and by consensus agreed that membership in these organizations should continue.

MOTION: Ted Spencer moved, Patti Duffy seconded that funds from Budget Category #447 be expended as follows for membership in said organizations:

South Dakota State Historical Society - \$175.00

Verendrye Museum, Ft. Pierre - \$500.00

Oahe Chapel Society - \$500.00.

MOTION PASSED

---

Meeting Adjourned

---

Meeting adjourned at 12:56pm.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Tuesday, April 15, 2025 at 12pm noon CSDT at the Pierre Senior Center, 401 West Pleasant Drive, Pierre, SD 57501.