



Pierre/Ft. Pierre Historic Preservation Commission
March 2026 Minutes

*March 16, 2026, meeting at the Pierre City Hall, 2301 Patron Parkway, Pierre, SD 57501
Meeting called to Order by President Buscher at 12:00pm.*

In Attendance

Commission Members: Kelli Buscher, President; Robert Kean, Secretary; Alan Haarstad, Larry Eliason
Patti Duffy, Ted Spencer

COMMISSION MEMBER CONFLICT OF INTEREST NOTIFICATION: None noted

Guests: Garry Guan – South Dakota State Historic Preservation Officer
Kevin Kumpf
Caitlin Beastrom

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

Mr. Kumpf stated he had three items to share with the Commission. 1. He has updates for the Commission’s historic booklets on the Pierre/Ft. Pierre communities and the proposed Pierre Historic Hill District SHPO review. (President Buscher invited him to share the updates and said they will be addressed before the next printing.) 2. Persons impacted by the Euclid Avenue rebuilding project have concerns and ideas regarding the replanting of trees along the street as it is being refurbished. He suggested coordinating with the Pierre Arbor Committee to seek ideas and funding opportunities. (President Buscher noted this was outside the authority of the Commission but the suggestion would be shared with DOT and the Pierre City staffs.) 3. Pierre Historic Hill District residents remain concerned with the proposed changes to Elizabeth Street between Euclid and Grand Avenues and want to be involved with the decision making process going forward. In particular, he requested the opportunity to be involved if the nomination for the Pierre Historic Hill District is reviewed and revised.

Meeting working documents were referred to and reviewed including material relating to sign replacement, additional financial information and accompanying notes.

Commission Members Volunteer Hours were recorded.

Volunteer Hours: SHPO Grant Year: September 22, 2025 – February 17, 2026 = 169.5

Calendar Year: January 1, 2026 – February 17, 2026 = 64.

Approval of Minutes

The February 17, 2026, Commission Minutes were reviewed and there being no further additions or corrections, Patti Duffy moved, Alan Haarstad seconded, that the Pierre/Ft. Pierre Historic Preservation Commission (PFPHPC) February 17, 2026, Minutes be approved as presented.

MOTION PASSED

Financial Planning Document Review

Commission Members reviewed the PFPHPC Financial Planning Document dated March 13, 2026, provided to the Commission prior to the meeting and accompanying materials consisting of informational notes and updates. In Treasurer Donna Leslie's scheduled absence, President Buscher updated the Commission regarding the annual SD State Historical Society membership dues mailing and Dr. Brad Tennant's invoice for presentations in Ft. Pierre this summer.

Old Business: Grant Application

President Buscher, noting the PFPHPC Project Application grant is due by March 31, reviewed the details of the Project Application and accompanying Cost Estimates previously sent to Commission Members. During discussion by Commission Members, President Buscher noted her appreciation for the assistance provided by Chris Nelson of the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) during the Project Application's drafting and his general assistance and support for the Commission. By consensus, Commission Members agreed the Preservation Project Application grant and accompanying Cost Estimates are complete and ready for submittal to SHPO.

Pierre Historic Hill District

President Buscher stated that the City of Pierre has submitted its plans to SHPO and requested their review of the project to extend the work on Elizabeth Street. The city is proposing to eliminate the "bump out" that will be created at the end of DOT's project by widening the remaining section and aligning it more closely with the width of Elizabeth Street west of the intersection with Grand. President Buscher invited Garry Guan to update the Commission on the status of their review. Concerning the Euclid/Elizabeth project, there are ongoing discussions regarding whether the City of Pierre's proposed work on Elizabeth is part of the DOT project or a separate project. That determination will direct the required historic review under either state or federal historic preservation laws and will determine if the entire project is reviewed again or just the City's addition to the project. Mr. Guan noted SHPO is willing to accept public comments about the project at the state office (SHPO@state.sd.us).

President Buscher updated the Commission on the proposed SHPO survey to update the National Register nomination information on the Pierre Historic Hill District. SHPO regularly conducts these reviews to update information regarding historic properties such as the Pierre Historic Hill District. President Buscher shared that SHPO has decided not to conduct the survey at this time. The resources dedicated to conduct the survey will

be reviewed for possible other historic related efforts by the PFPHPC. SHPO will consider a future review of the Historic Hill nomination if future funding is available.

Talking Trails

This agenda item was moved to the April meeting to allow for more information gathering.

Andy's Meat Market Sign

Commission Member Kean updated the Commission that another bid was sought to replace the Andy's Meat Market sign located on the northeast corner of Deadwood and East Main Street in Ft. Pierre that was defaced by knife marks. The three bids will be reviewed at the April meeting.

Cedar Hill Booklet

Commission Member Patti Duffy updated the Commission on the continuing efforts of the Cedar Hill Cemetery Board to finish accumulating the Cedar Hill documentation and finalize the editing to prepare the material for publishing. The effort is described as, "close to completion." Duffy will report further as progress continues.

New Business:

None offered.

Other Business:

None offered.

Meeting Adjourned

Meeting adjourned at 12:37pm.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Tuesday April 21, 2026, at 12pm noon CSDT at the Pierre City Hall, 2301 Patron Parkway, Pierre, SD 57501.

PIERRE – FT. PIERRE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

C/O: PIERRE CITY HALL

2301 PATRON PARKWAY

PIERRE, SD 57501

EMAIL: INFO@HISTORICPIERREFORTPIERRE.COM

WEBSITE: <HTTPS://HISTORICPIERREFORTPIERRE.COM>