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## Pierre/Ft. Pierre Historic Preservation Commission

### May 2026 Minutes

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*May 19, 2026, meeting at the Pierre City Hall, 2301 Patron Parkway, Pierre, SD 57501.  
Meeting called to Order by President Buscher at 12:05pm.*

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#### In Attendance

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Commission Members: Kelli Buscher, President; Donna Leslie, Treasurer; Robert Kean, Secretary; Larry Elison, Patti Duffy, Ted Spencer

COMMISSION MEMBER CONFLICT OF INTEREST NOTIFICATION: None Noted.

Guests: Deb Schiefelbein, Pierre

#### PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

Ms. Schiefelbein provided a detailed update on recent activities to maintain the Scotty Philip Cemetery in Ft. Pierre and replace the Norman Trail Sign to its former location at the Drifters restaurant in Ft. Pierre.

Scotty Philip Cemetery: The Scotty Philip Cemetery Community Support Group has been formed to assist with the maintenance and upkeep of the Scotty Philip Cemetery in Ft. Pierre. The group is made up of volunteers who assist the cemetery board maintain graves and plots for those who do not have relatives or friends who can maintain the graves. The maintenance offered consists of mowing, picking up debris, trimming around the headstones, trimming trees and controlling weeds within the cemetery boundaries. Persons interested in assisting can contact Deb Schiefelbein (via text at 605-280-9550) for further information. Ms. Schiefelbein also shared about efforts to gather more information regarding the cemetery to possibly print a booklet. Commission Members agreed that the Commission would have an interest in supporting the booklet development and assisting with its graphic design layout. This project could be undertaken in conjunction with the Commission's current efforts to update and republish a booklet on the Cedar Hill Cemetery in Ft. Pierre. Ms. Schiefelbein further shared the interest of the Scotty Philip Cemetery Board in establishing a membership opportunity for individuals and organizations interested in supporting the continuing efforts of the cemetery. She will provide further information to the Commission on the availability of material for a booklet and the cemetery membership opportunity.

Norman Trail Sign: The Norman family created and posted hundreds of signs in central and western South Dakota marking and describing historic indigenous and pioneer trails and the development and maintenance of commercial routes from the Missouri River to the Black Hills. One sign was located at the western edge of the Missouri River bridge near the current site of the Drifters restaurant. The sign was removed and stored during the construction of the new Missouri River bridge and completion of the landscaping of the Tatanka Park area. Deb

Scheifelbein shared the State Department of Transportation (SD DOT) has authorized that the sign can be replaced at its original area.

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

Commission Members Volunteer Hours were recorded.

Volunteer Hours: SHPO Grant Year: September 22, 2025 – April 21, 2026 = 223.5  
Calendar Year: January 1, 2026 – April 21, 2026 = 118.25

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### Approval of Minutes

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The April 21, 2026, Commission Minutes were reviewed and there being no further additions or corrections, Ted Spencer moved, Patti Duffy seconded, that the Pierre/Ft. Pierre Historic Preservation Commission (PFPHPC) April 21, 2026, Minutes be approved as presented.

MOTION PASSED

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### Financial Planning Document Review

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Commission Members reviewed the PFPHPC Financial Planning Document dated May 15, 2026, provided to the Commission prior to the meeting and accompanying materials consisting of informational notes and updates including a recap of approved sign repairs, information on the payment of the Chouteau/Verendrye Monument maintenance agreement to the City of Ft. Pierre and details relating to remaining current undesignated balances

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### **Old Business:** Andy's Meat Market/Verendrye Signs

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Commission Member Kean reported there were no corrections noted on the replacement sign proofs for Andy's Meat Market and Verendrye Monument informational sign previously sent to the Commission. He will contact M&R Signs to have them installed.

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### State History Conference/CLG Conference

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Commission Members will be attending the State History Conference (June 1-3, 2026 - Ft. Pierre) and the Statewide Certified Local Government (CLG) Conference (May 29, 2026 – Pierre). The Members will be attending as interested individuals and will not be representing the Commission nor conducting Commission business while attending these events.

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### Steamboat Artifact Update

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Commission Member Kean reported the artifact found by a local contractor appears to be a hand powered capstan that may be associated with the steamboat activity in the Pierre – Ft. Pierre area. The forged base of the capstan indicates it was manufactured by the Schoellhorn – Albrecht Machine Company of St. Louis, Missouri. When contacted, the company provided a name and contact number of a retired employee who may be able to

provide further information on the capstan's manufacture and usage. This item will be updated when additional information is available.

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### Dr. Brad Tennant 6.18.26 Presentation

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Dr. Brad Tennant will be speaking twice this summer at the Tales on the River program at the Moose Lodge in Ft. Pierre. On June 18, 2026, at 7pm CSDT, he will present, "Fame Over Misfortune – La Verendrye and the Opening of the Western Fur Trade." On July 16, 2026, at 7pm CSDT, he will present, "Homesteading and Settling the Great Plains." Commission Member Kean will confirm the Short Grass Arts Council, sponsor of the Tales on the River summer speakers program will again provide publicity for the events.

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### Website Changes/Updates

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Item continued to the June 16, 2026, meeting.

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### Future Commission Projects

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Item continued to the June 16, 2026, meeting.

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### Commission Publications Reprinting

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Commission Members reviewed the existing Commission booklet inventory, recent publication history and booklet distribution to determine which booklets to reprint at this time.

MOTION: Larry Eliason moved, Patti Duffy seconded, that funds be expended from Budget Category #450 to reprint Commission booklets as follows:

Lewis & Clark in the Pierre and Fort Pierre Area - \$2,500.00

Pierre Historic Homes - \$2,500.00

MOTION PASSED

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### **New Business:** Verendrye Monument/Ft. Pierre Chouteau Inspection

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The current Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) among the City of Fort Pierre, South Dakota State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and the Pierre/Ft. Pierre Historic Preservation Office (PFPHPV) requires the Verendrye Monument and Ft. Pierre Chouteau be physically monitored during June, July and August of each year. The purpose of the monitoring is to ensure the maintenance of the sites comply with the terms of the MOA. Historically, the monitoring team is composed of representatives from the City of Fort Pierre, SHPO and PFPHPC. A Monitoring Form to guide the inspections is provided in the current MOA. Commission Member Kean will contact the City of Fort Pierre and SHPO regarding participation in this year's monitoring and update the Monitoring Form to be used for 2026. The monitoring dates will be set at the June 16, 2026, Commission meeting.

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### Turtle Effigy/Waldron Monument Maintenance

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Commission Member Kean will inspect the Turtle Effigy and the Waldron Monument to determine the need for maintenance and report findings at the June 16, 2026, meeting.

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**Other Business:**

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None noted.

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Meeting Adjourned

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Meeting adjourned at 1:04pm.

NEXT MEETING DATE: June 16, 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**

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