

1 **PROVIDENCE CITY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**  
2 **MEETING MINUTES**

3 164 North Gateway Drive, Providence UT  
4 August 20, 2019 6:00 p.m.

5  
6 Call to Order: Howard Christenson, Chair  
7 Attendance: Wes Bitters, Howard Christenson, Pat Perry, Gail Trowbridge

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9 **Approval of Minutes:**

10 **Item No. 1.** The HPC will consider for approval the minutes of June 20, 2019.

11 **Motion to accept the minutes of June 20, 2019:** — P Perry, second — G Trowbridge

12 **Vote:**

13 **Yea: W Bitters, H Christenson, P Perry, G Trowbridge**

14 **Nay:**

15 **Abstained:**

16 **Excused:**

17  
18 **Item No. 2.** The HPC will consider for approval the minutes of July 17, 2019.

19 **Motion to accept the minutes of July 17, 2019:** — G Trowbridge, second — P Perry

20 **Vote:**

21 **Yea: W Bitters, H Christenson, P Perry, G Trowbridge**

22 **Nay:**

23 **Abstained:**

24 **Excused:**

25  
26 **Discussion Items:**

27 HPC will discuss the following items:

28 **Item No. 1.** Restoration and relocation of a 1911 post office building

- 29 • S Bankhead explained that she asked the city attorney about the agreement that the Leonhardt family wants, which is that if the post office is ever moved from the Old Rock Church, it would be moved back to their property. The attorney felt that in such a case, the family would need to reimburse the city for the taxpayer funds that were used to restore the building and to relocate it.
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- 34 • W Bitters said that he could talk to the family about this. S Bankhead said that she can change the agreement so that it is ready for W Bitters to take to the family.
- 35
- 36

37 **Item No 2.** A history of the water canal systems in Providence City

- 38 • H Christenson said that he thinks that we could get a grant on this project.
- 39 • S Bankhead said that it is possible, because we have physical artifacts left from the canals.
- 40 • H Christenson said that he would like to do the canal project for the February [Certified Local Government] grant application.
- 41
- 42 • P Perry said that if that doesn't work, we could use the help of [Rebecca Andersen's] university class. We could pay them to do it.
- 43
- 44 • S Bankhead asked W Bitters if he would put together the application. W Bitters said that he will.
- 45

46 **Item No 3.** Ev Thorpe painting owned by the Astle Family.

- 47 • S Bankhead said that she hasn't yet called Kathy [of the Astle family]. She will put it on her to-do list.
- 48
- 49 • H Christenson said that Dale [Astle] approached the city about donating the painting before he passed away. However, the family rejected the Memorandum of Understanding that the city wrote regarding the painting.
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- 51
- 52 • S Bankhead said that the family wanted to use the original agreement that we had when the

- 53 painting hung in the old city office building. In the old building, we were able to hang it in a place  
54 where it was unlikely to be damaged. The new agreement has a disclaimer about us not being  
55 responsible for damage. We were concerned that in this new building, there is no spot where we  
56 could hang it where it would be out of reach, and we didn't want to assume all the liability.
- 57 • P Perry said that we should add a caveat to the disclaimer that says that we will carry insurance  
58 on the painting.
  - 59 • S Bankhead said that she will talk to the city attorney about the old and the new agreement, and  
60 try to come up with a solution that will protect the city and the Astle family.
  - 61 • H Christenson said that we should keep this project moving forward until we either get the  
62 painting or it becomes impossible to get the painting.

63  
64 **Commission Reports:** Items presented by the commission members will be presented as informational  
65 only; no formal action will be taken.

- 66 • H Christenson reported that someone informed the mayor that there are some names missing  
67 from the veteran's memorial pamphlet.
- 68 • S Bankhead said that if we are going to redo the book, we could add the veterans who have  
69 served since the time that book was published.
- 70 • H Christenson said that the pamphlet is supposed to include every veteran from Providence who  
71 has ever served.
- 72 • S Bankhead said that the veteran's committee tried to make sure that it was accurate up to 2008  
73 or 2009. If we update it, we should put something in the newsletter so that people can tell us  
74 who should be in it.
- 75 • W Bitters asked if we are talking about changing the monument. S Bankhead said that we are  
76 talking about the pamphlet, but that there is a stand with the pamphlet available at the  
77 monument.
- 78 • H Christenson said that the mayor requested that we try to get this done, and do a ceremony on  
79 the anniversary of the 10<sup>th</sup> year of the monument's founding.
- 80 • W Bitters asked about the Veteran's Committee. S Bankhead said that the committee dissolved  
81 after they were done with the monument.
- 82 • S Bankhead said that the anniversary of the monument's founding already passed in June.

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84 **Public Comments:**

- 85 • Georgianna Banellis spoke about her involvement with the Bear River Heritage Council and the  
86 Cache Valley Historical Society. The Cache Valley Historical Society meets every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday in  
87 the old courthouse assembly room at 7pm. She invited the commission members to consider  
88 participating. She is also working with the Bear River Heritage Area to get national recognition  
89 due to the significance of the Bear River to the area's history.
- 90 • G Banellis said that the Bear River Heritage Council will meet on September 16 in the Bear Lake  
91 area. They are seeking to bring economic development that will preserve the natural wonders of  
92 the area. She said that the council needs to write a feasibility study so that US Rep. Rob Bishop  
93 can endorse funding.
- 94 • G Banellis said that the historical home tour is also on September 7<sup>th</sup>.
- 95 • H Christenson explained the work that the Providence Historic Preservation Commission has  
96 done in recent years. There is a historical walking tour with a recording that explains the  
97 historical buildings in Providence. The commission also created a video about the limestone  
98 quarry, and a video about sauerkraut. They have also put many historic pictures on the website.  
99 They also put up a monument about the history of the Providence Elementary School.
- 100 • G Banellis invited the commission members to share the things that they are doing with the  
101 Historical Society board. The board meetings are at 6 PM before the regular meetings.
- 102 • P Perry said that the railroad project could apply to the whole county.
- 103 • H Christenson explained the post office project. P Perry said that we found the old freestanding  
104 building. S Bankhead said that it used to sit somewhere near where the old city office building

- 105 was [at 15 South Main]. H Christenson said that we will put it on the Old Rock Church property.  
106 • Annette Drew asked about the Pioneer Day festival that we used to have at the Old Rock Church.  
107 • S Bankhead said that it used to be done in April, because that is when Providence was settled. It  
108 was not as successful the second year as the first year, and the committee didn't continue.  
109 • A Drew brought up the issues that we had with making the sauerkraut and the intervention of  
110 the health department. She said that instead of selling the sauerkraut, we could talk about it and  
111 show the equipment that was used, etc.  
112 • A Drew felt that the pioneer festival was an important link between the old and the new.  
113 • H Christenson said that even with promotion, it just didn't get enough attendance the second  
114 year.  
115 • Heather Metcalf of Providence asked about how the Pioneer Day festival was marketed.  
116 • S Bankhead said that they had a professional marketing team that did it. They were volunteers,  
117 but they were professionals. The first year, they created lots of synergies by hosting an art  
118 competition, combining the event with baseball games that were going on, involving the Old  
119 Rock Church, etc. This brought a lot of people. The second year they just couldn't get the crowds.  
120 • A Drew suggested that a good time for pioneer related activities would be during the times that  
121 the [USU] Summer Citizens are around. They like to experience the culture of the area. She  
122 suggested promoting it through the Visitor's Bureau.  
123 • A Drew brought up art shows. We could bring in professional artists.  
124 • S Bankhead said that we used to have an Art in the Park event at Von Baer Park every year. We  
125 did it for four or five years, but we couldn't get enough public support after a while.  
126 • H Metcalf asked if we only advertised to Providence, or if we were trying to bring people from all  
127 of Cache Valley.  
128 • S Bankhead said that we were advertising for all of Cache Valley. We worked with Cache Valley  
129 Center for the Arts. The first few years were good, but then the attendance started to dwindle.  
130 The growth of the farmer's market may have contributed to the lack of support.  
131 • H Metcalf suggested advertising at the Farmer's Market.  
132 • A Drew said that in event planning, the most important thing is to pick the right day so that there  
133 is no conflicts with other events, etc.

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135 **Motion to adjourn: — P Perry, second — G Trowbridge**

136 **Vote:**

137 **Yea: W Bitters, H Christenson, P Perry, G Trowbridge**

138 **Nay:**

139 **Abstained:**

140 **Excused:**

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142 Meeting adjourned at approximately 6:50 PM

143 Minutes prepared by Jesse Bardsley

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Howard Christenson, Chair

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Skarlet Bankhead, City Recorder

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