

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

3 164 North Gateway Drive, Providence UT  
4 November 19, 2019 6:00 p.m.  
5

6 Attendance: Howard Christenson, Wes Bitters, Sharon Johnson, Pat Perry  
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8 **Approval of Minutes:**

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

10 **Motion to approve the minutes of August 20:** — P Perry, second — W Bitters

11 **Vote:**

12 **Yea:** W Bitters, H Christenson, P Perry

13 **Nay:**

14 **Abstained:**

15 **Excused:**  
16

17 **Oath of Office for Sharon Johnson and Pat Perry:**

- 18 • Sharon Johnson and Pat Perry were sworn in. P Perry had been serving as a member of the  
19 Commission, but had not yet been sworn in. S Johnson is a new member of the Commission.  
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21 **Discussion Item(s):**

22 **Item No 1.** Brad Duncan will discuss the Utah Idaho Central Railroad project.

- 23 • B Duncan met with the digital initiatives team. It will take longer than we thought to complete  
24 the digitization process. We will finish the exhibit on April 3<sup>rd</sup>, and then the project will go live.  
25 Before that time, we would like a review process to take place. Dr Anderson will review it, and  
26 then we will provide a link for the Commission to review it. B Duncan will get the text done by  
27 the end of the year.
- 28 • H Christenson asked if there is anything else B Duncan needs from the Commission. B Duncan  
29 didn't think so.
- 30 • W Bitters asked if the report will include a page about the benefits of the railroad to Providence  
31 and its effects on the city.
- 32 • S Bankhead asked B Duncan to summarize the research he has done.
- 33 • B Duncan said that this project is about the Utah-Idaho Central railroad that went from Preston,  
34 Idaho to Ogden, Utah. B Duncan used the special archives collection at USU to find information.  
35 He was able to find quite a bit of information and correspondence about the railroad, such as  
36 company records and correspondence with the University President. He also has oral history  
37 records from people who lived in the area about the railroad. The end project will be a digital  
38 history exhibit.  
39

40 **Item No 2.** Kathleen Alder will discuss the Providence Pioneer Heritage Foundation.

- 41 • Kathleen Alder, President of the Providence Pioneer Heritage Foundation, gave background  
42 information about the foundation. It was founded by Ralph Call and Dale Astle and others. It was  
43 put together to raise money to put the plaque at the Old Rock Church. The organization stayed  
44 around to fund other projects. They have some funds available, and would like to use the funds  
45 for some of the projects that the Commission is working on. The funds need to be matched 50%.  
46 They have \$14,000 available.
- 47 • K Alder asked if the railroad project needs money. H Christenson said that they were considering  
48 a plaque about the railroad. We may also need some money for the canal history project.
- 49 • W Bitters asked about the Ev Thorpe painting. K Alder said that Ralph Call is also trying to  
50 procure the painting.
- 51 • S Bankhead said that previously, the family wanted to hang it in the city office building again. The  
52 city was not going to purchase it, but was going to borrow it and insure it.

- 53 • P Perry said that she would prefer to not have it housed at a commercial venue where not
- 54 everyone can see it.
- 55 • K Alder said that Rod Pack would be a good person to contact in regards to the painting.
- 56 • W Bitters asked if the foundation is going to be terminated. K Alder said that the foundation will
- 57 end once they are able to use the money.
- 58 • W Bitters said that as far as the Post Office project, we might not be able to act on it for another
- 59 two years. If the money from the foundation is still available then, we could use it. K Alder said
- 60 that it is possible that the foundation will still be around.
- 61 • K Alder said that there is also an old post office in Hyrum that could be purchased and moved.
- 62

63 **Item No 3.** Restoration and relocation of a 1911 post office building

- 64 • W Bitters made another proposal to the family about the post office. He proposed moving it to
- 65 400 South and Main. It is a city property/park. After thinking about it for a few weeks, the family
- 66 said that they were no longer interested in donating the post office. He thinks that the deal will
- 67 not go through for at least two years until we have a new administration.
- 68

69 **Item No 4.** A history of the water canal systems in Providence City

- 70 • H Christenson asked about the grant application that W Bitters was going to write [for the
- 71 Department of the Interior]. W Bitters said that he needs to know what our goals are for the
- 72 finished product before he can write it.
- 73 • P Perry suggested a written document with photographs. She said that we should look at what
- 74 the Dept. of the Interior wants.
- 75 • W Bitters said that he would like to see a video about the canal system. W Bitters said that
- 76 [Brian] Olsen and [Doran] Baker could give us insight in developing the video.
- 77 • S Bankhead said that a video could be a good idea. We could interview people who have been on
- 78 the board of the two irrigation companies. She said that George Daines might also be helpful.
- 79 • H Christenson said that the same man that did the quarry and the sauerkraut video could do this
- 80 video.
- 81 • Correction: Get the quarry video to work on the website.
- 82 • Correction: Link to the Historic Preservation website from Providence City's website.
- 83 • W Bitters asked if we want a plaque. He said we could put one at Zollinger Park. We have more
- 84 people visiting there than any other location.
- 85 • Becky Thoms, head of the Digital Initiatives Unit at Utah State University, said that she is happy
- 86 to work with the community on the train project.
- 87

88 **Item No 5.** Ev Thorpe painting owned by the Astle Family.

- 89 • S Bankhead said she will follow up with K Alder about the painting.
- 90 • W Bitters asked what K Alder will be doing in regards to the painting. S Bankhead said she will be
- 91 doing some leg work to get us some information.
- 92 • W Bitters said that when the family talked to the Commission previously, he had the distinct
- 93 impression that they did not want to sell the painting. They wanted to loan it to the city. S
- 94 Bankhead agreed, but said that things can change.
- 95

96 **Staff Reports:**

- 97 • S Bankhead said that we will be trying something new in Providence. We will be having a tree-
- 98 lighting ceremony and sell ornaments for a fund-raiser for The Family Place. We are planning it
- 99 for Thursday, December 5<sup>th</sup>. We will have a singing group, hot chocolate, and Santa.
- 100 • W Bitters asked about the car show. S Bankhead said that it went well. We had about 90 cars.
- 101 • S Bankhead said that it would be great if one of the Commission members wanted to be on the
- 102 Oktoberkraut Committee. We are thinking about moving the parade from the beginning of the
- 103 celebration to the end of the celebration. When the cars leave from the show, it is like a
- 104 miniature parade anyway.

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- S Bankhead said that we should find a way to get sauerkraut back at the event. P Perry said that we could get it from US Foods. She knows someone who works for US Foods. S Bankhead said that maybe we could enter into some kind of partnership with them.
- S Bankhead said that it would be good to get the Historic Preservation Commission involved with the Oktoberkraut event again. The sauerkraut demonstration that they did several years ago was a big hit.
- J Bardsley asked if someone could [make their own sauerkraut and sell it at the event]. S Bankhead said that they could. If the city makes it, we are considered a commercial entity and therefore have to follow extra rules.
- P Perry asked if someone could make the sauerkraut cake recipe and sell it at the celebration. S Bankhead said that they could. The city is considered a commercial producer, so we can't do it without going through Health Department rules.
- To Do: Put link to historic preservation website in the newsletter.
- H Christenson brought up a stipend for B Duncan. S Bankhead said that we should contact Dr. Anderson to ask her what the procedure and rules are.

**Motion to adjourn: — P Perry, second — W Bitters**

**Vote:**

**Yea: W Bitters, H Christenson, S Johnson, P Perry**

**Nay:**

**Abstained:**

**Excused: G Trowbridge**

Meeting adjourned at 6:51 PM

Minutes prepared by Jesse Bardsley

Minutes approved by vote of the Commission on January 22, 2020

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Howard Christenson, Chair

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Skarlet Bankhead, City Recorder