



# TETON COUNTY, IDAHO

## HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

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### MEETING MINUTES

January 30, 2024, 3:00 p.m.

1) ROLL CALL / CALL TO ORDER Commission Members Present: James Schoen (Chair), Barbara Agnew (Vice-Chair), Vancie Turner, Mike Merigliano, Polly Hart, Erica Rice. The meeting was called to order at approximately 3:00 pm, the Chair finding a quorum of commissioners in attendance.

Others present included Kirk Huffaker, consultant; Doug Self, City of Driggs; Audrey Gomm, Living History Group.

#### 2) HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN WORK SESSION

Kirk Huffaker, consultant, updated the commissioners on the planning schedule, stating that he would have the second plan draft submitted for the May meeting and then the final draft plan submitted in the summer, with a presentation at a community meeting.

Mr. Huffaker reviewed the structure and content of the plan and noted that he still needed to write sections of "Integration with Current Plans" and "Archeology", and added that he will put another piece in the Historic Context section regarding existing historic buildings.

Mr. Huffaker reviewed the three proposed Historic Periods. The commissioners discussed the idea of adjusting the time periods and adding a fourth period between Early Contact and First Settlement that could be defined as 1830-1870 and would be a sort of "quiet period" of transition.

Commissioners commented that full resource citations are desirable instead of hyperlinks.

A question was raised by Commissioner Barb Agnew of whether the Spud Drive-In would retain its status on the National Historic Register following loss of the screen structure. Kirk Huffaker stated that it did not have to be removed, but that there was a process through the State Historic Preservation Office to request removal. All commissioners agreed that if the site were to still be used as a drive-in theater, that it should remain on the National Historic Register. Several commissioners noted that they understood the new owner, MD Nursery, had plans to rebuild the screen structure.

Mr. Huffaker asked for comments on the draft plan chapters to be submitted to him by February 15<sup>th</sup> if possible so that he could respond to those at the February 29<sup>th</sup> commission meeting.

The topic of the Colter Stone was raised by Commissioner Barb Agnew, who noted that there was some uncertainty over its authenticity. Commissioner Vancie Turner suggested either leaving it out of the plan or being clear about the conflicting opinions.

### 3) Approval of December 12, 2023 Meeting Minutes

The Commissioners agreed to postpone approval of the minutes to the next meeting so that all had a chance to review the draft.

### 4) CORRESPONDENCE AND PUBLIC INPUT

a) Audrey Gomm of the Living History Group, which had provided an interpretive history display at the Teton County Fair, stated that her group would like help in promoting what they do. Ms. Gomm also presented a large canvas map that her husband had made showing all of the original townsites in Teton Valley. She added that she was also hoping to identify the location of original post offices, churches and schools in those townsites. Commissioner Vancie Turner stated that she has been communicating with the Driggs Mayor about Ms. Gomm noted that she appreciated the new Welcome to Bates sign installed by the Teton River. The Commissioners agreed that it was desirable to have signage identifying all of the townsites, but also that such signage should have consistency in their design.

### 5) CLG GRANTS:

Doug Self noted that the State Historic Preservation Office had received the 2024 CLG grant application for a reconnaissance level survey.

### 6) OTHER DISCUSSION AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

i) Commissioner Barb Agnew inquired about the possibility of working with the Council of Governments in implementing an ordinance addressing demolition of historic buildings. The commissioners concluded that the Historic Preservation Commission would need to present the completed plan to the cities and county for adoption, which would then lead into its implementation, including drafting and consideration of ordinances that may be recommended by the plan.

### 7) ADJOURNMENT

**Commissioner Mike Merigliano moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Erica Rice seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor. The meeting adjourned at approximately 4:30 p.m.**