



GRASS VALLEY

Historical Commission Meeting

Tuesday, November 18, 2025 at 3:00 PM

Council Chambers, Grass Valley City Hall | 125 East Main Street, Grass Valley, California

Telephone: (530) 274-4310 - Fax: (530) 274-4399

E-Mail: info@cityofgrassvalley.com

Web Site: www.cityofgrassvalley.com

AGENDA

Any person with a disability who requires accommodations to participate in this meeting should telephone the City Clerk's office at (530)274-4390, at least 48 hours prior to the meeting to make a request for a disability related modification or accommodation.

MEETING NOTICE

Historical Commission welcomes you to attend the meetings electronically or in person at the City Hall Council Chambers, located at 125 E. Main St., Grass Valley, CA 95945. Regular Meetings are scheduled at 4:00 p.m. on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. Your interest is encouraged and appreciated.

Members of the public are encouraged to submit public comments via voicemail at (530) 274-4390 and email to public@cityofgrassvalley.com. Comments will be reviewed and distributed before the meeting if received by 9 am. Comments received after that will be addressed during the item and/or at the end of the meeting. The commission will have the option to modify their action on items based on comments received. Action may be taken on any agenda item.

Agenda materials, staff reports, and background information related to regular agenda items are available on the City's website: www.cityofgrassvalley.com. Materials related to an item on this agenda submitted to the Commission after distribution of the agenda packet will be made available on the City of Grass Valley website at www.cityofgrassvalley.com, subject to City staff's ability to post the documents before the meeting.

Please note, individuals who disrupt, disturb, impede, or render infeasible the orderly conduct of a meeting will receive one warning that, if they do not cease such behavior, they may be removed from the meeting. The chair has authority to order individuals removed if they do not cease their disruptive behavior following this warning. No warning is required before an individual is removed if that individual engages in a use of force or makes a true threat of force. (Gov. Code, § 54957.95.)

Council Chambers are wheelchair accessible and listening devices are available. Other special accommodations may be requested to the City Clerk 72 hours in advance of the meeting by calling (530) 274-4390, we are happy to accommodate.

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approval of the regular scheduled meeting of October 14th, 2025, minutes.

PUBLIC COMMENT - *Members of the public are encouraged to submit public comments via voicemail at (530) 274-4390 and email to public@cityofgrassvalley.com. Comments will be reviewed and distributed before the meeting if received by 3pm. Comments received after 3pm will be addressed during the item and/or at the end of the meeting. Historical Commission will have the option to modify their action on items based on comments received. Action may be taken on any agenda item. There is a time limitation of three minutes per person for all emailed, voicemail, or in person comments, and only one type of public comment per person. For any items not on the agenda, and within the jurisdiction or interest of the City, please come to the podium at this time. If you wish to speak regarding a scheduled agenda item, please come to the podium when the item is announced. When recognized, please begin by providing your name and address for the record (optional).*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

STAFF AGENDA ITEMS

2. Review of Submitted Nomination for the 2025 Historic Legacy Award

Recommendation: Review and consider forwarding a recommendation to the City Council to approve the nomination of Teresa Poston for the 2025 Historic Legacy Award.

COMMISSION AGENDA ITEMS

3. Moving the start time of the December 9, 2025 meeting to 2PM.
4. Funding for plaques for Walsh/City Brewery Mill St and Firehouse.
5. QR plaque for Citizen Star
6. Banner final list and photos
7. History Day May 9th
8. Historical Commission vacancy
9. Lake Olympia update
10. Walking tour update
11. Historical Award update
12. Kiosks
13. Mills Act Presentation by Terry McAteer

ADJOURN

POSTING NOTICE

This is to certify that the above notice of a meeting of a Historical Commission, scheduled for Tuesday, November 18, 2025, at 3:00 p.m., was posted at city hall, easily accessible to the public, as of 5:00 p.m. Thursday, November 13, 2025.

Taylor Whittingslow, City Clerk

Grass Valley Historical Commission

Minutes of Tuesday, October 14, 2025

Commissioners Present: Reilly, Albrecht and Poston

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Albrecht at 3:00 pm

Approval of the September 9, 2025 minutes, with date correction, (it submitted as August 12, 2025), Comm. Poston moved and Reilly seconded the approval motion. Unanimously adopted.

Public Comment: None

Discussion on Agenda items:

WALKING TOURS - September Walking Tour was a success, 25 to 28 people attended and we collected \$70. in donations. No Walking Tour took place in October. May through September Walking Tours raised \$1,341. towards the Historic Banner fundraising initiative.

LAKE OLYMPIA - Comm. McAteer and Comm. Albrecht had a lunch meeting with two City Council members in September. It was reported the meetings that have taken place regarding Lake Olympia were positive and more meetings are planned to work through next steps.

WALSH MILL/FIREHOUSE - Comm. Poston provided all required text and plaque specifications for the Walsh Mill and Firehouse recognition to staff, (Amy). Pricing bids will be collected and presented to the City Council in November to approve and identify a source of funding.

HISTORIC BANNERS - Comm's Poston, Albrecht and Reilly reviewed the list of names and places for the banners, no changes were made. We have 27 banners identified and there are 32 light standards we will fill in with other Historical marketing banners. Next step is to collect high-resolution photographs; Amanada provided a sample layout for consideration. The criteria for banner selection:

- Lived in Grass Valley and made a significant contribution
- Priority #1 Buildings
- Diversity
- Recommendations from Gage McKinney
- Input from public (Jeanie?)

CITIZEN STAR – Comm. Poston will send the proposed text to Comm's Reilly and Albrecht for final review and input. The final version will accompany the documents for quarterly update to the City Council on October 28, 2025

WALKING TOUR – Comm's Poston and Reilly went on Nevada City's walking tour. They suggest further collaboration with Lisa and Rose to add 'stories' using audio to complement the platforms we are providing.

DRAFT QUARTERLY REPORT – Comm’s reviewed and discussed the talking points presented by Comm. Albrecht, all edits, additions and deletions will be applied. The report will be organized by Progress, Plans and Closing statements. The quarterly report will be presented on October 28, 2025. Comm. Albrecht will see that staff receives all of the documents a week ahead of the meeting.

This is Comm. Albrecht’s last meeting; I thank my fellow commissioners for their unwavering efforts towards preserving the history of Grass Valley. It has been an honor and pleasure to work alongside each of you.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:55 pm

Next scheduled meeting is Tuesday, November 18, 2025



City of Grass Valley Historical Commission Agenda Action Sheet

Title: Review of Submitted Nomination for the 2025 Historic Legacy Award

Recommendation: Review and consider forwarding a recommendation to the City Council to approve the nomination of Teresa Poston for the 2025 Historic Legacy Award.

Prepared by: Taylor Whittingslow, Deputy City Manager

Meeting Date: 11/18/2025

Date Prepared: 11/13/2025

Background Information: The City of Grass Valley's Historic Legacy Award was established to recognize an individual, group, or business whose outstanding contributions have preserved, promoted, or enhanced the historical and cultural heritage of Grass Valley. Each year, the Historic Commission reviews all timely nominations and provides a recommendation to the City Council.

The nomination period for the 2025 award closed on September 30th. As of the deadline, one nomination was received.

A completed nomination form and a detailed nomination statement were submitted, outlining over 23 years of contributions to historical preservation, research, project review, education, landmark designation work, and community engagement.

The Historic Legacy Award criteria emphasize contributions in:

- Historical research or writing
- Public education or outreach
- Advocacy for preservation
- Restoration or rehabilitation of historic places
- Preservation of artifacts, sites, or cultural traditions

Based on the submitted documentation, the nomination of Teresa Poston demonstrates sustained, impactful, and multi-dimensional contributions in all listed areas. Her work reflects a decades-long commitment to preserving Grass Valley's historical resources and enhancing public awareness of the City's cultural legacy.

Teresa currently serves on the Historic Commission; however, the policy does not restrict commissioners from being nominated or receiving the award. The nomination was submitted by a fellow commissioner but reflects the Commission's unanimous desire to recognize her long-term contributions.

Attachments: Nomination packet



CITY OF GRASS VALLEY HISTORIC LEGACY AWARD NOMINATION FORM

AWARD PURPOSE

The Historic Legacy Award is presented annually by the City Council, upon the recommendation of the Historic Commission, to an individual, group, or business whose outstanding contributions have preserved, promoted, or enhanced the historical and cultural legacy of the City of Grass Valley.

NOMINEE INFORMATION

Name of Nominee (Individual, Group, or Business): Teresa Poston

Contact Person (if applicable): _____

Mailing Address: 415 Neal Street, Grass Valley, CA 95945

Phone Number: 530-913-5030

Email Address: poston-poston@sbcglobal.net

Nominee Category: ☒ Individual ☐ Group/Organization ☐ Business

NOMINATOR INFORMATION

Your Name: Mark Reilly on behalf of the City of Grass Valley Historical Commission

Mailing Address: 125 East Main Street, Grass Valley, CA 95945

Phone Number: 415-309-0107

Email Address: mark@markreillyarchitecture.com

Relationship to Nominee: Fellow Commissioner

NOMINATION STATEMENT

In the space below (or on an attached sheet), please describe why this nominee deserves the Historic Legacy Award. Include specific contributions related to one or more of the following areas:

- Historical research or writing
- Public education or outreach
- Advocacy for preservation
- Restoration or rehabilitation of historic places
- Preservation of artifacts, sites, or cultural traditions

Be sure to include dates, projects, partnerships, and the lasting impact of their work, if applicable.

Nomination Statement:

Please see attached Nomination Statement.

[illegible]

SUPPORTING MATERIALS

Please attach any supporting documents such as:

- Photos of restoration or preservation projects
- News articles, publications, or reports
- Letters of support
- Awards or recognitions received

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

Completed forms and supporting materials must be submitted by: September 30th

Submit via:

□Email: taylorw@cityofgrassvalley.com

☐ Mail or In Person:

City of Grass Valley – Historic Commission

125 East Main St., Grass Valley, CA 95945

For questions, contact:

Taylor Whittingslow, Deputy City Manager
530-274-4716 or taylorw@cityofgrassvalley.com

City of Grass Valley Historic Legacy Award Nomination Form for Teresa Poston

- DRAFT 8/12/25 -

Nomination Statement:

Teresa Poston has been a dedicated advocate, promoter, and preserver of Grass Valley's historical legacy for over 23 years. The breadth of her contributions are the reason the Grass Valley Historical Commission voted unanimously to nominate her to be the first recipient of the Grass Valley Historic Legacy Award.

Teresa's many contributions and accomplishments in historical research, writing, education, and preservation include the following:

1. Grass Valley Historical Commission Member (2002 to present): In addition to her contributions below, Teresa advocated to keep the Commission as-is, collaborate more frequently with the Nevada County Landmarks Commission and Grass Valley Chamber of Commerce, and report to the City Council quarterly.
2. Project Review (2002 to present): Reviewed proposed development projects for properties with a Priority 1 ("Very Significant") or Priority 2 ("Significant") parcel rating within the 1872 Grass Valley Townsite to ensure preservation of their historic character and contribution.
3. Heritage Home Awards Program (2002-2008): Participated in identifying and researching historic homes, nominating homes for award consideration, and awarding plaques to nominated home owners. Designed an annual award program booklet that articulated the history and architecture of that year's award recipients and included maps and line drawings.
4. Heritage Home Awards Booklet (2008-2009): Compiled 45 awarded homes into one Heritage Home Award Booklet and developed the historic home map and walking tour. Proceeds from booklet sales established an enterprise fund to help pay for future Historical Commission projects.
5. Inventory of 1872 Townsite Properties (2007-2010): Met with City Council member to promote the funding of a professional building survey of the 1872 townsite, and develop the Grass Valley Historical Design Guidelines, Historic Preservation Ordinance, and Historic Resource Guide using Redevelopment Agency funds.
6. Citizen Star Awards (2010 to present): Helped promote and secure Citizen Star awards for Peggy and Howard Levine (2025). Assisted her late husband, Chauncey Poston, in providing support letters and securing funding for the Gerard Tassone

Citizen Star (2010). Currently helping to develop online access to information on Citizen Star recipients and their legacies.

7. Priority 1 Property Awards (2018): Organized a special presentation and reception to award owners of top Priority 1 rated properties identified in the 1872 Townsite Inventory with a certificate and plaque to display at their property. Funding for the project was provided by the established enterprise fund.
8. 100 Year Anniversary of WWII (2018): Coordinated poster display of historic photos in downtown windows.
9. Landmark Designations and Plaques (2021 to present): Helped secure landmark designations and develop plaques for the African Methodist Episcopal Church Site (2021-2022) and Memorial Park (2023-2024). Monies from the enterprise fund helped pay for the church's bronze plaque. Currently working to secure landmark designations for the Eagle Hose Company at 139 East Main Street and the former brewery at the Mill Street parking lot.
10. Memorial Park Renovation (2023-2024): Developed history panels for Memorial Park's Centennial Courtyard project.
11. Historic Downtown Walking Tour (2025): Member of ad hoc committee to identify buildings, developing text, and secure photos for future online walking tour to promote the history of downtown Grass Valley.
12. Awards (2004 and 2017): The Mayor Award was presented to Teresa in 2004 and to her family in 2017 for their outstanding volunteer contributions to Grass Valley.

Teresa's dedicated work on the Grass Valley Historical Commission has helped to ensure that the history of Grass Valley will live on. She is thus richly deserving of the Grass Valley Historic Legacy Award.

Christopher Stevens— Ambassador

Sarah and John Kidder— Railroad Owners

Lyman Gilmore— Aviator, Inventor

Arthur/Mary Hallock Foote— Mine
Engineer/Author

Lola Montez— Entertainer

Josiah Royce— Philosopher

Lotta Crabtree— Entertainer

Sr. Mary Baptiste Russell— Religious Leader

James Hague— Mining Engineer

Arletta Douglass— Civic Leader

Bill Hullander— Mayor

Gerard Tassone— Civic Leader

Dee Mautino— Mayor

Peggy and Howard Levine— Community
Organizers

Glenn Jones— Business Leader

Jerry Angove— Educator

Fr. Thomas Dalton— Founder of Convent &
Orphanage

Lorenzo Sawyer— Jurist

Charles Cully— Maidu Leader

Kan Tin-Loy— Business Leader

David Comstock— Author/ Publisher

Alonzo Delano— Humorist, Author

Edmund Kinyon— Union Editor

Melville Attwood— Inventor of
Mining Equipment

Errol MacBoyle— Mine Owner

George Starr— Mine Engineer

Issac Sanks— Former Slave, Religious Leader

Golden Gate Saloon

Odd Fellows Hall

Nevada County Bank

GV Opera House

Memorial Park

North Star Powerhouse

Empire Mine

North Star House

Old Post Office

Emanuel Episcopal

Holbrooke Hotel

Jones Hospital

Kidder Mansion

Lake Olympia

Lola Montez House

Lotta Crabtree House

St. Josephs

GV Carnegie Library

Welcome Miner

The Union Building

Elks Lodge

St. Patricks Church

Ben Taylor home

Del Oro Theatre

Hansen Home

Veterans Building

Alpha Hardware Building