



ARTS, CULTURE AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

October 13, 2026 at 8:30 AM

Council Chambers at City Hall - 1123 W. Lake St. Sandpoint, Idaho

Call to Order

The meeting of the Sandpoint Arts, Culture and Historic Preservation Commission was called to order at 8:33 a.m. on Tuesday, October 13th, 2026, by Chairwoman Susnis in the Council Chambers of City Hall.

Roll Call

PRESENT

Chair Elle Susnis
Commissioner Barry Burgess
Commissioner Rick Decker
Commissioner Darra Collison
Commissioner Carrie Logan
Commissioner Bill Aitken on Zoom

ABSENT

Commissioner Kate McAlister
Commissioner Carol Deaner

Meeting Minutes Approval

1. September 8th, 2026, Draft Minutes for Approval - **Action Item**

September 8th, 2026, meeting minutes were approved unanimously by commissioners present.

Motion made by Commissioner Logan, Seconded by Commissioner Decker.

Voting Yea: Chair Susnis, Commissioner Burgess, Commissioner Decker, Commissioner Collison, Commissioner Logan, Commissioner Aitken

Financial Report

2. Sandpoint Urban Renewal Agency (SURA) Financial Report

The latest financial information from the Sandpoint Urban Renewal Agency reflects the following for art fund balances as of July 30th, 2026:

Downtown: \$257,282.10 Northern \$140,786.76

Elections

3. Commission Elections for Chair - **Action Item**

Chairwoman Susnis opened the floor for nominations for the position of ACHP Chair. After confirming Ms. Susnis was willing to continue to serve, commissioner Logan nominated Ms. Susnis to continue as commission chairwoman.

Motion made by Commissioner Logan, Seconded by Commissioner Decker.
Voting Yea: Commissioner Burgess, Commissioner Decker, Commissioner Collison,
Commissioner Logan, Commissioner Aitken
Voting Abstaining: Chair Susnis

4. Commission Elections for Vic-Chair - **Action Item**

Kate McAlister was nominated for Vice Chair by commissioner Logan. Ms. Susnis confirmed that Ms. McAlister was willing to accept the appointment.

Motion made by Commissioner Logan, Seconded by Commissioner Collison.
Voting Yea: Chair Susnis, Commissioner Burgess, Commissioner Decker, Commissioner Collison, Commissioner Logan, Commissioner Aitken

Commission Business - Arts

5. Public Art Deaccession Policy Discussion

The Commission reviewed a draft policy addressing formal removal, relocation, repair, damage, and other disposition of City-owned public art. Members supported establishing a consistent policy and recommended considering public notice, deceased artists, artist-funded repairs, policy length, and legal review. Commissioners will submit suggested edits to the board clerk, a copy of the draft will be shared with legal, and the draft will return for further discussion after review.

6. Public Art Future Project Discussion

Downtown Phase 3: Commissioner Decker will attend the October 21, 2026, steering committee meeting at 9:00 a.m. and share a summary of the meeting with the commission in November. Public Works Director, Holly Ellis has been invited to present Phase 3 plans to the Commission at its November meeting. Members discussed functional art, seating, shade, tables, and other features that encourage people to linger downtown.

Potential Future Projects:

A sculpture garden between the banks of Sand Creek and the City owned Sand Creek Trail Parking Lot/ Trail Head.

Investigate creative treatments for the remaining structural pillars near Fourth Avenue and Main St, including surface repairs.

Continue exploring public art opportunities near Farmin Elementary School and Kaniksu Community Health.

Commission Business - Culture

Commission Business - Historic Preservation

7. Commercial A Historic Preservation - Update

Staff liaison, Bill Dean and members discussed the September 15 property owners' meeting and upcoming public hearings on the proposed downtown zoning and historic preservation code. Planning and Zoning will consider the code on October 20, with City Council consideration anticipated December 2.

Members discussed the importance of public education, addressing property-owner concerns, communicating the Commission's commitment to a timely and workable review process, and advocating for historic preservation.

Commission Business - General

Chairwoman Susnis shared that three recent downtown historic walking tours were successful. Members supported keeping the free tours under Commission management to maintain community visibility and meet historic preservation outreach goals.

Commissioners' Roundtable

Celebrating preservation: Members discussed recognizing property owners who rehabilitate and maintain historic buildings, potentially through local awards and positive public outreach.

Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

I presided over the meeting and can confirm that minutes, prepared by the Board Clerk were approved by the Arts Culture and Historic Preservation Commission during their regular meeting held on

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