



ARTS, CULTURE AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

August 11, 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 8:30am on Tuesday, August 11th, 2026, by Chairwoman Susnis in the Council chambers of City Hall.

Roll Call

PRESENT

Chair Elle Susnis
Commissioner Barry Burgess
Commissioner Kate McAlister
Commissioner Carol Deaner
Commissioner Darra Collison

Commissioner Rick Decker arrived at 8:36am
Staff Liaison Bill Dean

Meeting Minutes Approval

1. June 9th, 2026, Draft Minutes for Approval - **Action Item**

The June 9th, 2026, meeting minutes were approved unanimously by commissioners present.

Motion made by Commissioner McAlister, Seconded by Commissioner Deaner.

Voting Yea: Chair Susnis, Commissioner Burgess, Commissioner McAlister, Commissioner Deaner, Commissioner Collison

2. June 15th, 2026, Draft Workshop Minutes for Approval - **Action Item**

The June 15th, 2026, workshop minutes were approved unanimously by commissioners present.

Motion made by Commissioner McAlister, Seconded by Commissioner Collison.

Voting Yea: Chair Susnis, Commissioner Burgess, Commissioner McAlister, Commissioner Deaner, Commissioner Collison

3. June 24th, 2026, Draft Workshop Minutes for Approval - **Action Item**

The June 24th, 2026, workshop minutes were approved unanimously by commissioners present.

Motion made by Commissioner Collison, Seconded by Commissioner Deaner.

Voting Yea: Chair Susnis, Commissioner Burgess, Commissioner McAlister, Commissioner Deaner, Commissioner Collison

Financial Report

4. 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

Commission Business - Arts

5. Carousel of Smiles Mural Application - **Action Item**

Carousel of Smiles / Galloping Pony Mural – 502–504 Church Street

Commissioners reviewed the proposed mural for the north alley-facing wall. Discussion focused on the distinction between a mural and mural sign under City Code. Commissioners agreed the proposed running horses and sunset design functions primarily as artwork and does not advertise or identify the business. The applicants also described plans for community participation in painting the mural.

Action: The Commission unanimously recommended that City Council approve the Galloping Pony mural at 502–504 Church Street.

Motion made by Commissioner Collison, Seconded by Commissioner Deaner.

Voting Yea: Chair Susnis, Commissioner Burgess, Commissioner McAlister, Commissioner Deaner, Commissioner Collison, Rick Decker

6. The Commission discussed the need for more consistent monitoring and maintenance of public art. Items identified for follow-up included:

Jeff Jones Square ceramic tile mural: Staff will ask the parks building and grounds maintenance supervisor to assess the condition of the stucco wall and determine what would be involved in safely removing the deteriorating tiles. An estimate may be obtained for removal and restoration of the wall.

Jeff Jones Town Square bicycle sculpture: Investigate adding a small vinyl plaque recognizing the sculpture as a memorial to Jeff Jones.

Boyer Roundabout: Determine which City department is responsible for the damaged and misaligned lighting and have the lights evaluated and adjusted.

Sandpoint Sign: Investigate replacement of the degraded translucent vinyl on the plexiglas and determine whether the current LED bulbs are appropriate. Staff will research the original bulb specifications and possible replacement options.

Lady Liberty: Follow up regarding repair of minor paint chips and appropriate touch-up.

Photo displays at the Sand Creek Landing: Address overgrown landscaping and inspect deteriorating photo.

Third and Pine bear/elk artwork: Contact the artist regarding recommended preservation, refinishing, or maintenance.

General cleanup: Explore organizing a volunteer public-art cleanup day before winter.

7. Public Art Summer Project Update

The Commission reviewed recent public art accomplishments, including installation of the three Silver Boxes, sponsored through SURA, and the two Big Belly Monster utility box wraps sponsored by STCU. The Commission also noted the successful installation of the summer street banners.

8. Historic Walking Tour - Update

Commissioners discussed distribution of the newly printed historic walking tour brochures. Chairwoman Susnis will explore obtaining brochure racks and expanding distribution to

locations such as the hospital, visitor/information locations, businesses, and potentially Coeur d'Alene. Walking tours are continuing, with additional tours planned for late August.

Commission Business - Historic Preservation

9. Commercial A Historic Preservation - Update

Bill Dean provided an update on the proposed zoning and historic preservation ordinance work. The project has been delayed by recent staffing limitations, but is now being accelerated, with a **target of October 20, 2026, for a Planning and Zoning Commission hearing.**

The Commission and staff agreed that direct outreach to downtown property owners is an important next step. A meeting is targeted for **mid-September**, preferably at the Music Conservatory. The Music Conservatory cost was discussed, and funding for the facility rental was offered by Commissioners Susnis and McAlister.

Commissioner McAlister left the meeting at 9:53am.

Commission Business - General

Orchids & Onions:

Chairwoman Susnis shared that she and Carrie Logan submitted both a residential and commercial nomination for the 2026 Orchids & Onions awards. Members discussed creating a future public solicitation process so property owners can nominate their own properties.

Commissioners' Roundtable

Cedar Street Sculpture:

Chairwoman Susnis will submit the RFP information for the permanent sculpture planned for the Cedar Street/Second Avenue bulb-out location and coordinate with staff to issue the solicitation.

Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 10am.

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

Elle Susnis, Chair

Kami Omodt, Board Clerk