



MINUTES
HISTORICAL PRESERVATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
October 23, 2025

Place: Aspen Conference Room, 2nd Floor Orem City Hall

At 6:09 p.m.: Olivia Johnson, Chair called the meeting to order.

Attendees: Crystal Muhlestein, Olivia Johnson Historic Preservation Advisory Commission members; City Council Member, Chris Killpack; Grant Allen, Senior Planner, Grace Bjarnson, Associate Planner; Tami Moore, Laura Nelson community members;

Those excused: Historic Preservation Advisory Commission member Lon Bowen, Britni Laidler, Devin Peirce

Electronic Displays & Storage

Alternative electrical locations were secured for new city center displays. Purchase orders for 2-3 displays and a storage cabinet are moving forward. The commission discussed a setup and programming session by the next meeting. The commission plans to prepare content, schedule an unveiling event at a future City Council meeting.

Cordner Family Artifacts

Artifacts potentially linked to the Cordner family (near 400 South Dr.) were discovered. A viewing trip is a priority. Staff will reach out to the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) for additional details of procedures.

Minutes continued to next meeting due to no quorum.

Commission Member Terms

Terms for original reconstituted members (including Olivia) expire early next year. Re-appointment is a simple process: Chris suggests, Council approves, and the Mayor appoints.

“My Orem Story” & Photo Collection

The project, aims to collect community stories and photos. A video interview with Lon was postponed to November. The plan is to feature different historical layers, possibly starting with Lon or John (if Lon is unavailable). The commission will start collecting photos, then seek archiving help from the library and re-establish a relationship with UVU's library collection.

Memo Gardens Historic District Discussion

The commission reviewed the context of a survey, required for UDOT mitigation, that recommended a historic district for the Memmo Gardens area (solid, double-brick homes, 1910-1948). Tami stressed that guidelines must not be overly restrictive (e.g., banning solar panels) and should focus on preserving original brick and permitting rear extensions. Benefits cited include maintaining/increasing property values and preventing undesirable rezoning.

Next Steps for Historic District

1 Nomination requires more documentation. Staff will review requirements and Orem's existing
2 district. Reach out to SHPO regarding training/consultation on the district process in November.
3 The commission discussed drafting a balanced ordinance requires finding examples from other
4 cities. Potential benefits of the historic district include state grants and tax write-offs. Additional
5 discussion centered around potential restrictions such as banning vinyl fencing and requiring
6 design review for modifications. Staff clarified new restrictions would not apply retroactively to
7 existing ADUs. The commission committed to gathering information and involving the
8 neighborhood.

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10 **Motion to Adjourn:** Olivia Johnson moved to close meeting. No quorum.

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12 **Adjourned:** 6:47 pm.

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14 Approved: 12/18/2025

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