



## **Minutes**

### **Summit County Heritage and Landmark Commission**

**October 26, 2025**

**Summit County Courthouse**

**Conference Room 1**

Members of the Commission, presenters, and members of the public could attend by electronic means, using Zoom (phone or video). Such members could fully participate in the proceedings as if physically present.

Present: Derek Siddoway, Jocelyn Scudder, Margaret Olson, Dalton Gackle, Dan Compton, Joe Frazier, and Ryan Stack

### **Quick recap**

The Heritage and Landmark Commission held a strategic planning retreat where they discussed various topics including construction status, board recruitment, and potential expansion of their mission to include museum preservation efforts. The group explored options for improving the Summit County Historical Museum, including potential relocation and funding opportunities, while also discussing the need to expand their board membership and increase community engagement. The commission outlined their strategic goals and reviewed budget requests for 2026, including plans for surveys and partnerships with preservation organizations, while also addressing code cleanup processes and museum staffing needs.

### **Next steps**

- Joe to talk with Tonja Hanson about the Commission's ambitions and ideas, including expanding the scope to include the museum.
- Ryan to work on code cleanup to combine the Heritage and Landmark Commission with the Historical Society.
- Joe to prepare a strategic plan document with the three main goals and send it to the Commission members.
- Commission members to provide individual feedback to Joe on the strategic plan document.
- Joe to add the strategic plan to the January agenda for formal vote and adoption.

- Joe to work with Amy about advertising for the three open Commission positions.
- Commission to work on developing policy that provides protections to historic buildings.
- Joe to talk to Mike Crystal about integrating the museum into building renovation ideas.
- Joe to connect with the communications team about creating historical content for the Summit County social media.
- Margaret to provide historical content/photos for social media posts.
- Commission to share job postings for new members on Coalville and Kamas Facebook pages when they are published.

## **Summary**

### **Heritage Commission Strategic Planning Retreat**

The Heritage and Landmark Commission held a strategic planning retreat on October 16th. The meeting began with introductions of commission members present and online. They also touched on the state of construction, board member recruitment efforts, and the upcoming presentation by the Board of State History.

### **Historic Preservation Board Expansion Plan**

The board discussed strategic planning for historic preservation, focusing on expanding board membership from 5 to 9 members to include more diverse representation from Summit County. They identified funding limitations as a key challenge, with the board suggesting the need to explore additional funding sources beyond the CLG grant. The group also discussed creating a Summit County historic landmark designation program to complement national landmark status, while Joe highlighted the need for better public education about historic preservation designations.

### **Summit Museum Expansion Plans**

The group discussed the potential expansion of their mission to include the preservation and enhancement of the Summit County Historical Museum, currently housed in the basement of the county building. They explored ideas for improving the museum, such as acquiring a new location, hiring a curator, and creating a more professional display of artifacts. The board considered revising their mission statement to allow for this type of work, which would also open up new funding opportunities. They also discussed the importance of community engagement and social media presence to highlight local heritage.

### **Heritage Commission Expansion Plans**

The group discussed expanding the scope of the heritage and historic preservation commission, including potentially merging it with the Historical Society and creating a new code to provide protections for historic properties. They explored the process of getting properties listed on the National Register and considered ways to educate landowners about the significance of historic

buildings. The group agreed to present their ideas to the County Council in January (if possible) and to seek funding for surveys and other preservation efforts. They also discussed the possibility of using TRT (Transient Room Tax) funds to support the Summit County Museum.

### **Museum Relocation Options Discussion**

The group discussed the potential relocation of the museum, considering both the benefits of increased accessibility and the drawbacks of losing its current location in Coalville. They explored various options, including integrating the museum into the renovation plans for the current building, moving it to the Skull Candy Building, or placing it in the historic Ure Ranch buildings. Jocelyn suggested the idea of establishing a museum in the Spring Chicken Inn building, which could also serve as an arts center, and proposed organizing history walks along the rail trail. However, concerns were raised about the lack of public access upstairs in the Skull Candy Building and the need for a new building due to space constraints for other departments.

### **Strategic Goals and Budget Planning**

The commission discussed their three strategic goals: policy work, museum vitality, and education/community engagement. They reviewed their budget request to County Council for 2026, which includes funding for a reconnaissance-level survey and additional projects. The group agreed to partner with organizations like Preservation Utah to leverage existing knowledge and expertise and considered holding in-person meetings at different locations throughout the county. They also clarified that commissioners could serve a maximum of three terms, which can be non-consecutive.

### **Museum Operations and Recruitment Planning**

The group discussed code cleanup and approval processes, with Jocelyn suggesting they could present it at the January meeting rather than needing a special meeting. They also explored the possibility of creating an Instagram account for the museum, with Margaret offering to serve as content manager. The board agreed to advertise three openings for museum positions, with a focus on recruiting candidates from different areas of the county and discussed the process for reviewing applications and conducting interviews.