



Historic Preservation Commission Minutes

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Minutes:

CHAIR STOLDAL called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

PRESENT: CHAIR STOLDAL and COMMISSIONERS LARIME (excused until 12:08 p.m.), HOTCHKISS, SERFAS, COSGROVE, PALACIOS, MOODY, PURDUE (via teleconference), HARPER, GILLESPIE (ex-officio member and Nevada State Museum Designee) and SIEBRANDT (ex-officio member)

EXCUSED: COMMISSIONERS LeVINE and GRIMMER

ALSO PRESENT: MICHAEL HOWE, Planning Project Manager; PAUL MATA, Deputy City Attorney III; and GABRIELA PORTILLO-BRENNER, Deputy City Clerk

2. Announcement Regarding: Compliance with Open Meeting Law

Minutes:

ANNOUNCEMENT MADE: This meeting has been properly noticed and posted at the following locations in accordance with the noticing standards as outlined in NRS 241.020: City Hall, 495 South Main Street, 1st Floor; the City of Las Vegas website - www.lasvegasnevada.gov; and the Nevada Public Notice website - notice.nv.gov.

3. Public Comment: Comment during this portion of the agenda must be limited to matters on the agenda for action. If you wish to be heard, come forward and give your name for the record. The amount of discussion, as well as the amount of time any single speaker is allowed, may be limited.

Minutes:

None.

4. Chair's announcement relative to the Historic Preservation Commission

Minutes:

CHAIR STOLDAL announced that Preserve Nevada would release the Eleven (Plus One) Most Endangered Sites in Nevada. Among the sites listed were the Lear Theatre in Reno, Nevada, and the Huntridge Theatre (Huntridge), which opened in 1944. The report states that after going through a series of owners, the current owners of the Huntridge proposed a detailed restoration plan; however, restoration had not started, and the owners had to file a lawsuit against the communication company that was delaying the restoration, possibly for up to two years. Additionally, the report mentions The Neon Museum's intent to relocate the La Concha Motel Lobby, which was done by internationally known architect PAUL REVERE WILLIAMS and was on the list. The Mormon/Stewart Ranch, as part of the Old Mormon Fort State Park, was on the list because it was facing an uncertain future in the area, given plans for the demolition of Cashman and reconstruction in the area. He urged people to await the release of the full report for details.

5. For possible action to approve the Final Minutes by reference of the Special Meeting of April 30, 2025

Minutes:

CHAIR STOLDAL called for a motion.

Motion made by Todd Moody to Approve

Passed For: 8; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 2; Excused: 3

For-Robert Stoldal, Donald Hotchkiss, Richard Serfas, Craig Palacios, Sondra Cosgrove, Todd Moody, Cheryl Purdue, Nathan Harper; Did Not Vote-Nevada State Museum Designee, Diane Siebrandt; Excused-Jack LeVine, Michelle Larime, Misty Grimmer;

6. **25-0237-HPC1** - Discussion for possible action regarding approval of funding up to the amount of \$15,000 for members of the Commission to attend the September 16-18, 2025, National Trust Preservation Leadership Forum PastForward 2025 conference in Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Minutes:

CHAIR STOLDAL commented that two Commissioners and two staff members asked to attend the subject conference, and the final cost would depend on the final attendance. He was looking forward to learning the details of the sessions.

COMMISSIONER SIEBRANDT said she needed to know how many Commissioners were interested in attending to price it out, although the prices had not been released. She urged responses from those interested in attending personally or virtually. CHAIR STOLDAL asked COMMISSIONER SIEBRANDT to share the content of each session to see if any Commissioners were interested in a particular session.

Motion made by Richard Serfas to Approve

Passed For: 9; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 2; Excused: 2

For-Robert Stoldal, Donald Hotchkiss, Richard Serfas, Michelle Larime, Craig Palacios, Sondra Cosgrove, Todd Moody, Cheryl Purdue, Nathan Harper; Did Not Vote-Nevada State Museum Designee, Diane Siebrandt; Excused-Jack LeVine, Misty Grimmer;

7. **25-0238-HPC1** - Report by the Community Development Department regarding the presentation of the 2025 Historic Preservation Awards

Minutes:

CHAIR STOLDAL said the focus of this matter was the annual Historic Preservation Commission's (HPC) awards program, and he provided some history. In 1973, the United States Congress created the first National Historic Preservation Week, which became a part of the annual City of Las Vegas (City) celebration and recognized the historic significance of the May 15, 1905, land auction that created the city. Ninety-nine years later, LOUISE HELTON and BOB COFFIN collaborated in raising funds through the sale of a Centennial license plate to hold a 100-year celebration, and the sale of that special plate continues to support historic preservation, education and commemoration of the city, including funding projects approved by the HPC. Coincidentally, the HPC established the Historic Preservation Awards program, and this year, a new award category was added in honor of COLLEEN BECK; the first award in that category would be presented at this meeting. MS. BECK devoted her life to architecture, archaeology and the history of the indigenous population of the Southwest.

COMMISSIONER SIEBRANDT advised that MICHAEL HOWE, Planning Project Manager, would be presenting the awards on her behalf.

CHAIR STOLDAL sequentially announced each awardee in their category, and the respective Commissioners read the narrative.

Preservation Education:

CHAIR STOLDAL announced that the Friends of the Fort (Friends), a non-profit organization, was organized in 1983 to advocate for the site, which is a Nevada state historic park (Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort State Historic Park [Fort]) in the heart of Las Vegas, and helped with numerous challenges for over forty years to ensure its survival. The Fort was listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) in 1972 and with the help of the Friends, the HPC recently funded a detailed, in-depth amendment to the original study that would be available on the National Park Service website upon approval at the state level. Starting in 1855, with the work of The Church of Jesus of Christ of Latter-day Saints, the land changed hands several times and was a farm, a ranch and a rest stop before becoming a community that included a U.S. Post Office with the official name Las Vegas with HELEN JANE WISER STEWART as postmaster. MS. STEWART owned the ranch and much of the Las Vegas Valley and sold the ranch in 1902, which in turn, created the Las Vegas townsite. The Friends continually protect and advocate for the historic site through educational initiatives on www.Friendsofthefort.org and its Facebook page to preserve this endangered site. With the celebration of the Fort's 170th birthday, the HPC was proud to recognize the Friends of the Fort for its ongoing advocacy and support of the site. In the absence of LARRY MOLTON, Friends of the Fort Board Chair, a group of members came forward to receive the award.

LISA MESSENGER, Friends of the Fort Board Member, appreciated the award and felt proud to care for the property where Las Vegas' history started. She said anyone was welcome to see and learn about its history.

Colleen Beck Archaeology, Paleontology and Indigenous Ethnography:

COMMISSIONER LARIME stated Nuwu Pahsats, meaning The People's Garden (Garden), which was a remarkable initiative at the Springs Preserve, was weaving the preservation of Southern Paiute culture and language with the conservation of native plants. This innovative project reveals historical roots and the reality of the deep connection between culture, nature and the languages and cultures of the population identified in Southern Nevada. The Garden's interpretive content was developed in collaboration with the Moapa, Las Vegas and Pahrump Paiute tribes, and their ongoing guidance ensures the Garden's authentic representation through selected culturally significant plants and their traditional seasonal uses. Southern Paiute words and phrases focusing on plants, food preparation and housing are available through interpretative panels featuring phonetic spellings and QR (quick reference) codes, offering visitors an enjoyable experience centered on Southern Paiute heritage that also serves as a beacon of hope for the preservation of Indigenous heritage. The Garden is a living testament to the deep ties between culture and the environment.

On behalf of the HPC, COMMISSIONER LARIME thanked JENNIFER KLEVEN, Deputy Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Director, for this outstanding nomination and announced that LISA WINDHAM, General Manager of the Springs Preserve, would accept the award.

CHAIR STOLDAL said that touring the Garden was well worth the trip, as it provides a very emotional experience that links people together.

MS. WINDHAM expressed her appreciation for this honor and to all who worked together and contributed. She said it would be a pleasure to provide a tour to anyone interested.

Advocacy:

CHAIR STOLDAL commented that KAREN LIVINGSTON, who was born and raised in Las Vegas, was a lifelong protector of Floyd Lamb Park at Tule Springs (Park), which stood out as a crown jewel for its history and public use. She organized neighbors to share information on the history, benefits and opportunities at the Park, advocated for a volunteer program to lead educational tours about its history and testified in support of the City of Las Vegas ordinance supporting ongoing efforts to preserve the unique and special character of the Park. Over the years, MS. LIVINGSTON donated personal financial resources to protect the Park, including a monetary donation to restore interpretative signs for visitors to understand the historical significance. As a retired teacher, she understood the value of providing the public with Las Vegas' history. Her effective advocacy and selfless efforts were driven by a deep love and respect for the area and the Park's role in the community.

The Chair also thanked COUNCILWOMAN NANCY BRUNE for her work in preserving the city's culture and history and for MS. LIVINGSTON'S nomination for this award.

MS. LIVINGSTON was humbled and honored to receive this award. When she started in 2020 to protect the Park's character and sense of place, she could not have imagined receiving an award. Nevertheless, it could not have been possible without the encouragement and support of Ward 6 residents. She gave special thanks to CHRIS GIUNCHIGLIANI, former Clark County Commissioner, TERRI ROBINSON, a long-time environmental activist, and LISA MAYO, community activist and campaign manager, for sharing their knowledge and guidance through the complexities of dealing with City Hall. She also thanked COUNCILWOMAN BRUNE for fulfilling her campaign promise of supporting a resolution to protect the Park for future generations. Moreover, MS. LIVINGSTON thanked her husband and family for their unwavering support during the 2.5 years she worked to raise awareness about the Park.

Career Achievement:

COMMISSIONER LARIME stated that JONATHAN ULLMAN, President and CEO (Chief Executive Officer) of The National Museum of Organized Crime and Law Enforcement, aka The Mob Museum (Museum), led the Las Vegas-based, non-profit organization with the mission of advancing the public's understanding of the city's history, from its early development to the legalization of gambling and its hospitality industry growth. In November 2020, as the Museum's only employee, MR. ULLMAN headed the conceptual museum and hired staff to open in 2012, and this year marked a successful second decade of operations. His work included the preservation and celebration of the 1933 U.S. Post Office and Federal Courthouse, known by its popular name, The Mob Museum. The Museum hosts and programs Las Vegas community forums and educational outreach programs based on the city's history. For more than a decade of work, from daily management to ongoing public outreach programs and expansion, MR. ULLMAN was selected to receive this award.

MR. ULLMAN was perplexed to receive a career achievement award with not enough time passing, but he felt privileged to be entrusted with a historic building, its artifacts and content offered to the public about its history. He always tells people that his job would not be possible without the support of the HPC, his staff, advisors and the community. He was very grateful.

CHAIR STOLDAL announced that RICHARD HUDSON BRYAN had a long career in public service, including involvement in the preservation, education and commemoration of the history of Las Vegas and Nevada. As a graduate of Las Vegas High School, former governor of Nevada and United States Senator representing Nevada, SENATOR BRYAN was selected to receive this award for his many efforts to pass legislation for Nevada. The prime example was his work on the passage by Congress of the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (SNPLMA) to use reinvestment funds from the sale of public lands in Nevada to preserve and restore projects, including the Springs Preserve. Following a series of meetings throughout the state and with the assistance of UNLV (University of Nevada, Las Vegas), SENATOR BRYAN and others, Preserve Nevada was realized and chaired by SENATOR BRYAN. Through public education efforts, they created an annual list of Eleven Most Endangered Sites in Nevada (now 12), and this year's list included the Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort State Historic Park. The Chair congratulated SENATOR BRYAN, although he could not be present.

Additionally, CHAIR STOLDAL announced that this year, the rules were changed for Historic Preservation Awards, including allowing the public and the City of Las Vegas to make nominations, and adding the Colleen Beck Archaeology, Paleontology and Indigenous Ethnography category to the list of categories, which he named and provided a brief description for some of them: Dorothy Wright Bricks and Mortar - to include individuals, organizations and agencies that sponsored a historic rehabilitation of historic structures; Historical Media Project - to media members that produced material involving significant research on the city's history; Preservation Education; Advocacy, Career Achievement; City of Las Vegas Business Legacy - for local businesses that contributed to the history, culture and authentic identity of the city for more than 40 years. The Chair encouraged any nominations to be submitted to COMMISSIONER SIEBRANDT for next year's awards, which would require writing the nomination, limited to no more than 200 words.

Lastly, CHAIR STOLDAL thanked all the nominees and award recipients for their work, and COMMISSIONER LARIME expressed her appreciation as well for helping to preserve the history of Las Vegas.

COMMISSIONER SIEBRANDT reminded everyone to stay for the luncheon at 1:00 p.m. in the Now Café.

CHAIR STOLDAL thanked COMMISSIONER SIEBRANDT for helping the Commission achieve more than previously done in the form of updating nominations and handling numerous projects, including recognition of historic homes and buildings. She and her staff of one had done a tremendous job. COMMISSIONER SIEBRANDT was grateful for the recognition.

See Item 4 for related discussion.

8. Report by the Community Development Department regarding Director's updates

Minutes:

MICHAEL HOWE, Planning Project Manager, said there were no updates.

9. Report by the Community Development Department regarding Project Update List

Minutes:

COMMISSIONER SIEBRANDT reviewed a PowerPoint Slide, a copy of which was submitted for the record, to update the Commission on various projects. The Cliff May Homes Survey was under review by SHPO (State Historic Preservation Office). The Old (Las Vegas) Mormon Fort (Fort) update to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) was scheduled for the September 11, 2025, State Board (of Museums) meeting. The (Historic) Westside School update to the NRHP was accepted and approved by the Keeper of the Register in Washington, D.C., and the Floyd Lamb Park (at Tule Springs) Historical Report was still in progress. Pioneer Heritage Day would be held June 14, 2025.

In response to CHAIR STOLDAL'S question about the hearing for the Fort, COMMISSIONER SIEBRANDT indicated that the update to the Fort was supposed to be heard on June 5th, but the announcement did not get out in time, so it was rescheduled to September. The Chair asked that the new SHPO director be invited to make a presentation about its future and potential impacts to the HPC from the recent legislative session.

10. **25-0239-HPC1** - Report by the Community Development Department regarding historic and archaeological resources in local media

Minutes:

CHAIR STOLDAL said there were links to interesting articles in the backup documentation and asked the Commissioners to share anything they find with COMMISSIONER SIEBRANDT.

11. **Discussion regarding topics for future agenda items.** Comments made during this portion of the agenda by individual members shall refer solely to proposals for future agenda items and any discussion shall be limited to whether or not such proposed items are within the purview of the Commission and/or whether such proposed items shall be placed on a future agenda. No discussion regarding the substance of any such proposed topic shall occur and no action shall be taken.

Minutes:

CHAIR STOLDAL asked if there were any topics for future discussion.

COMMISSIONER LARIME asked to discuss the possibility of a survey and preservation plan for Charleston Boulevard, noting the handful of Googie-style buildings and other legacy-style buildings warranted a study. She advised CHAIR STOLDAL that most of the buildings were located on East Charleston Boulevard; however, there were a few on West Charleston Boulevard that could be included. The discussion could include building dates to help define the boundary for the study.

12. **Citizens Participation:** Public comment during this portion of the agenda must be limited to matters within the jurisdiction of the Commission. No subject may be acted upon by the Commission unless that subject is on the agenda and is scheduled for action. If you wish to be heard, come forward and give your name for the record. The amount of discussion on any single subject, as well as the amount of time any single speaker is allowed, may be limited.

Minutes:
None.

13. **Adjournment**

Minutes:
The meeting was adjourned at 12:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Gabriela Portillo-Brenner, Deputy City Clerk



Diane Siebrandt, Historic Preservation Officer

THIS MEETING WAS PROPERLY NOTICED AND POSTED AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS
IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE NOTICING STANDARDS AS OUTLINED IN NRS 241.020:

The City of Las Vegas website – www.lasvegasnevada.gov

The Nevada Public Notice website – notice.nv.gov

City Hall, 495 South Main Street, 1st Floor