



City of Independence Minutes

**Historic Preservation Commission Meeting
Monday, October 20, 2025**

1. **Call to Order.** Chair Flores called the meeting to order at 5:33 pm
2. **Roll Call.**
 - Present: Commissioner Miranda Garrison
Commissioner Rebecca Berry
Commissioner/Chair Jennifer Flores
Commissioner Anne Devane
Commissioner Catherine Underwood-Bush
 - Absent: Commissioner Willis Homann, excused
Commissioner Liz Boisvert, excused
 - City Staff Present: Fred Evander, City Planner
Myra Russell, City Recorder
Marilyn Morton, Council Liaison
3. **Minutes.** Commissioners asked that City Recorder check
 - 3.1. **Regular Meeting 09/15/2025.**
Commissioner Devane questioned the wording of the motion in 9-15-2025 minutes. Recorder Russell will verify and bring minutes back to the next meeting.
4. **Visitors/Public Comment.** None.
5. **Staff Reports/Presentations - Other.**
 - 5.1. **Continued Training about the Independence Historic District.**
Evander led the commission through an exercise to analyze architectural changes on a historic street using Sanborn maps and Google Earth, with the goal of understanding how buildings evolve over time. The group discussed various historical houses in a neighborhood, identifying and analyzing different architectural styles such as Italianate, Queen Anne, Craftsman, and Victorian. They estimated the ages of several houses. The discussion included observations about modifications to some properties, such as the additions and modifications to porches. Various historical images and maps were analyzed to demonstrate how buildings evolve over time. They examined specific examples of porches, windows, and structural modifications, noting that many current buildings have accumulated changes from different time periods.
6. **Unfinished Business.** None.

7. **New Business.** None.

8. **Other Discussion/Information Items.** 8.1. Video: How Buildings Learn by Stewart Brand 3 of 6 “Built for Change” Evander shared about 7 minutes of a BBC video series about buildings and their ongoing evolution, emphasizing that cities and their historic districts are constantly changing through accumulated decisions. Brief discussion of the adaptability of buildings over time and how modern conveniences (plumbing and electricity) have transformed spaces like kitchens.

9. **Adjournment. Action:**

Commissioner Garrison moved to Adjourn; Commissioner Underwood-Bush seconded.

Roll call vote. Motion 5-0-0

Ayes: Miranda Garrison, Rebecca Berry, Jennifer Flores, Anne Devane, Catherine Underwood-Bush

Nays: None

Abstentions: None

Chair Flores adjourned the meeting at 6:25 pm.

Minutes submitted by:

Myra Russell, City Recorder