

**CITY OF ABILENE
HERITAGE COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES**

**March 20, 2025, at 4:00 p.m.
Abilene Public Library
209 NW 4th St. Abilene, KS 67410**

Members Present: Nanc Scholl (Chair), Nicole Beck (Vice Chair), Mary Burtzloff, Kevin Bailey, Andrew Pankratz, Barry Arp

Members Absent: Jeff Radabaugh

Staff Present: Community Development Director Kari Zook, Administrative Assistant Kellie Olson

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Beck at 4:00 p.m.

Approval of Agenda

Pankratz moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Bailey. Motion carried unanimously 6-0.

Approval of the Meeting Minutes – February 20, 2025

Burtzloff moved to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Bailey. Motion carried unanimously 6-0.

Business

Kansas Preservation Conference May 7-9, 2025 in Topeka, KS

- Details regarding the conference were previously emailed to members and discussed at today's meeting. Kari Zook and Nanc Scholl have submitted their anticipated travel expenditures to SHPO and have been approved to receive reimbursement upon completion of the conference. The MOU has been signed and returned to the Kansas State Historic Preservation Office. Burtzloff and Beck indicated they would like to attend the CLG training on Wednesday only. Staff will submit their registrations.
- Chair Scholl would like Abilene to be considered as a host for this conference in the near future. Abilene hosted in 2002 and 2016.
- The theme of this year's conference is Planning for the Future of Preservation, emphasizing the importance of trades, resiliency planning, and engaging the next generation of preservationists.

Heritage Commission Goals for 2025

Discussion was held regarding the commission's goals for this year and in the near future. The following ideas were shared during a brainstorming session:

- How to promote the mission for historic preservation in Abilene in a physical aspect. Perhaps identify historic city buildings and structures that need attention and improve their exterior appearance (i.e. Library, CVB, City Hall, Eisenhower Park, etc.).
- Submit features and publications highlighting historic properties and their past to the Abilene Reflector-Chronicle newspaper. References mentioned include the KansasMemory.org website, photography by Joseph Pennell, and the KU Libraries website, which has local Sanborn maps. Members will visit with

community members and revisit this topic at future meetings. Jeffcoat Museum has an abundance of photos and history of Abilene sites we could utilize for this project.

- Host historic home repair training workshops for property owners.

National Preservation Month – May

- The CVB has reserved the banner to be displayed over NW 3rd St after the conclusion of Antique Fest on May 10.
- Discussion was held regarding the Heritage Commission contributing a financial donation to the Dickinson County Historical Society preservation workshop event on May 3, 2025. Arp would personally like to contribute the \$200 request for advertising expenses from his business, Gun Junction.
- The event on May 3 is in need of speakers. Staff recommended they reach out to local business owners who have recently rehabilitated historic properties: Trevor Witt with Rackets Taphouse, Jason Barth with Abilene Dental Arts, Andy Gilmore with Garfield Senior Living/CVB general contractor.

Administrative Review permit approvals:

- 303 N Broadway St – building, plumbing, electrical permit
- 209 NW 4th St – fence permit

Comments - None

Adjournment

Beck made a motion to adjourn at 4:33 p.m., seconded by Arp. Motion carried unanimously 6-0.

Minutes Approved,



Nanc Scholl, Chair
Nicole Beck, Vice Chair
Heritage Commission

Attest:



Kari Zook
Community Development Director