

## **BEMIDJI HERITAGE PRESERVATION COMMISSION**

### **REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

**Tuesday, September 16, 2025. 3:30 pm**

**City Hall Conference Room. 317 4th Street NW**

1. **Call to Order:** by Linda Lemmer at 3:30 pm

2. **Welcome Guests:** No guests Present

Members Present and signed in : Linda Lemmer, Chris Bell, Lois J. Jenkins, Joan Dreyer, Jay Tody, and newly appointed member, Ashton Loeb, Andy Mack excused.

Also present: Josh Peterson, City Council representative and Michelle Miller Bemidji City Clerk.

3. **Approve Agenda:** Moved to add meeting time change and fto accept as mailed, Joan Dreyer and Lois J Jenkins, seconded. Carried.

4. **Approve Minutes:** Moved to accept August 19, 2025 minutes, Chris Bell and Jay Tody, seconded. Carried.

#### **5. Old Business**

##### **a. 100 Year Old Buildings**

New Applications: Lois J Jenkins, 606 Lincoln Ave SE passed her application with pictures and a 3" binder of information to support her application. Cecilia Wattles McKeig's application had been tabled, is now paid for and pictures forthcoming to support her application for 420 Irvine Av NW.

Ashton Loeb has completed the Lincoln School, 402-404 Lincoln Av SE, application with the owners of Mount Zion Church and the fee is paid for and available to look at. (When Lois Jenkins remains to Michelle Miller) Joan Dreyer moved to accept Jenkins' application and Ashton Loeb seconded. Carried. Motion by Joan Dreyer to accept Lincoln School and second by Jay Tody. Carried.

Set October 14 to present three decals to the applicants. Usual PR to media and Council.

##### **b. SHPO Follow Up**

i. City Manager: Joan Dreyer will summarize her conference notes and talk with Rich next week and ask City of Bemidji to Complete application to SHPO.

ii. Members Attending Convention: Joan Dreyer reported on the State Preservation Conference in New Ulm. 45th annual in 2025

2026 will be in Minneapolis and will be the National Alliance for Preservation Commissions/ Conference. (July). <https://www.napcommissions.org>

2025 sessions were tours of New Ulm, parks, archaeology, Capital Mall, SHPO archives and disaster response, historic districts, art galleries, industry, and the US Dakota War exhibit.

IF Bemidji were to host in 2027: Visit Bemidji has a lot of those tours ready to go.

c. **Old New Bemidji Hotel Mural** : Not in Painter Meyers contact

d. **Pumping Station 1909 Storm Damage**: Review again the storm damage. Mark Jacobson says IF restorable charge about 5-8,000\$ more or total \$160,000. New Discussion: What if the blocks could be saved and a monument built on site with story boards on "WATER"?

Minnesota History stated that if the Water Tower was there, more valuable to save the pumping station 1909.

Motion by Chris Bell and seconded by Jay Tody for Heritage Preservation Commission to be prepared to inform City of Bemidji is no longer interest in preservation and restoration of pumping station 1909; but wish to salvage sign and blocks for future use to repurpose

Carried.,(Andy Mack wished to be on record, previous to this discussion that he was not in favor of saving the pumping station.)

Linda Lemmer will talk to city manager about this new idea.

6. **New Business**: Meeting time. Discussion to move meeting time due to members who are employed. Moved by Lois Jenkins and seconded by Joan Dreyer to move meeting time to 4:30 pm, Third Tuesday of the Month. Carried.

a. **Warroad Celebration of History in Northwest Minnesota**;

Minnesota Historical Society has invited everyone to a Gala event at the new River Place in Warroad, Monday, September 22. Focus in on "Legacy Grants". Joan Dreyer and Lois Jenkins have rsvp. Joan driving the car pool. Find: [Warroadriverplace.org](http://Warroadriverplace.org)

7. **Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 21, 4:30 pm City Hall**

Meeting adjourned at 4:34 pm with motion by Joan Dreyer and second by Chris Bell. Carried.,

Recorded

Lois J. Jenkins