

Historic Preservation Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
Subject to review and approval
Tuesday, December 9, 2025, at 7:00 PM
via Zoom Video Conference

Commission Members Present: Eric Gilbertson (Chair), Robert McCullough (Vice Chair), Paul Carnahan, and Linden Chozinska,

Members Absent: Bryan Jones

Others Present: Meredith Crandall (Staff); Brian Gallagher, Mike Donofrio, and Dawn Kress representing the Vermont Mountaineers, and Recreation Dept. Director Arne McMullen.

1. Call to Order: 7:09 PM

2. Approval of the Agenda. Approved unanimously.

3. Comments from the Chair: None

4. Montpelier Recreation Field - stadium and pool house: Determination of Eligibility, etc. to assist Mountaineers' project involving the construction of buildings near the stadium for toilet facilities.

Bob is completing the form required for a formal determination of eligibility for the Montpelier Recreation Field, a Public Works Administration project constructed during 1938 and 1939, that included the stadium and ballfield, a football field and tennis courts, and the existing swimming pool and bathhouse. The document will be a cultural landscape report. Additional information is needed about the dates of additions to the site, including the stadium scoreboard, outfield fencing, press box, little league field, pool shelter, and revised location of the tennis courts. Some of that information should be available from the annual town reports or can be provided by the Vermont Mountaineers. The DOE report should be available in a week or two, and Bob believes that at least the field and its stadium are eligible for the National Register. Once the DOE has been submitted to VTSHPO, the Mountaineers' project will require a Section 106 review. Meredith will help coordinate getting information from the Mountaineers to Bob.

Bob made a motion that the Montpelier Historic Preservation Commission will prepare a formal determination of eligibility for the Montpelier Recreation Field, and submit it to the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation. Paul seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously 4-0.

5. Discuss Bailey Dam Removal Project

Removal of the Bailey Dam will be undertaken as part of the city's flood mitigation project. The dam was a CCC project that replaced an earlier timber-crib dam associated with water power used by the Bailey Mill. The dam was designed with operable tainter gates that could be raised or lower the level of the Winooski River, a means of flood control. However, the tainter gates have

been removed and the dam is probably no longer eligible for the National Register due to loss of integrity. In any case, the project will require a DOE and Section 106 review because of the dam's association with New Deal projects in Vermont. The topic will be placed on the January agenda.

6. Review and Approve Minutes: 11/11/2025. Minutes approved as edited involving the spelling of Jon Copans name and clarification that Bev Hill and others will, through contacts, try to raise money.

8. Other Business. Eric emphasized that the HPC needs to be involved with the types of projects discussed at the meeting to ensure that HPC plays a continuing role with the city involving its historic resources.

9. Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 13, 2026.

10. Eric adjourned the meeting by executive order at 8:04 P.M.