

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION



Nels Reese
Commission Chair
hpc@ci.moscow.id.us

Regular Meeting
~Minutes~

Mike Ray
Staff Liaison
208.883.7008

<http://www.ci.moscow.id.us/431/Historic-Preservation-Commission>

Thursday
April 24, 2025

4:30 PM

Haddock Building
504 S. Washington Street

Reese called the meeting to order at 4:42 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Nels Reese, Chair; April Hernandez, Laurabeth Kowalick, Vincent O'Connor, Jack Porter, Shelley Walker-Harmon
MEMBERS ABSENT: Eleanor Evans, Renee Magee, Steve Taylor
OTHERS: Drew Davis
STAFF: Mike Ray

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes from February 27, 2025 (ACTION ITEM)

Porter moved for approval of the minutes as written, seconded by Kowalick. Vote by Acclamation: Ayes: Unanimous (6). Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

2. Public Comment

Members of the public may speak to the Commission regarding matters NOT on the agenda or currently pending before the Commission. Please state your name and city of residence for the record and limit your remarks to three (3) minutes.

None.

3. University of Idaho Historic District Update

A discussion about the work being done for the University of Idaho Historic District.

Walker-Harmon provided a brief update on the progress of the University of Idaho Historic District, which has been submitted for review by State Historic Preservation Office.

4. 2025 Orchid Awards (ACTION ITEM)

The topic of the Orchid Awards will be discussed, as well as strategies for finding appropriate candidates.

The Commissioners discussed and nominated some commercial and residential projects for the Orchid Awards, including several downtown remodels. There was a draft pamphlet for advertising the Orchid Awards distributed for finalization.

5. Interpretive Signage in Friendship Square (ACTION ITEM)

The Commission will discuss the plan for adding interpretive signage in Friendship Square.

A Commissioner will contact the owner of the Moscow Hotel building with a draft template for the Friendship Square signage. The Commission will continue to research how to acquire higher quality scans for the images.

REPORTS

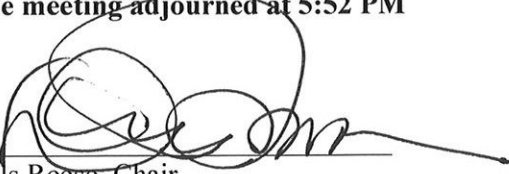
ANNOUNCEMENTS

UPCOMING EVENTS / MEETINGS

The next regular meeting is scheduled for May 22, 2025.

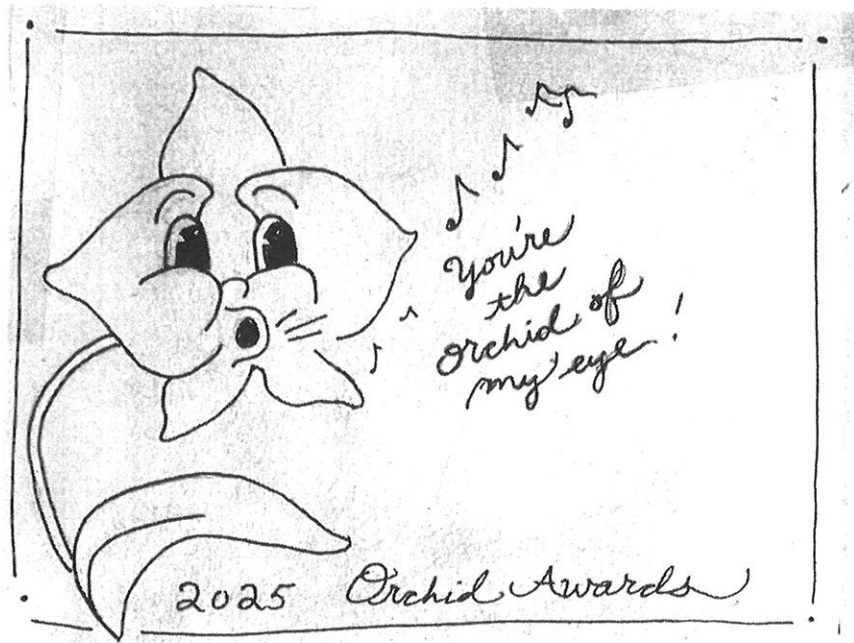
The Commissioners decided to do tabling at the Farmers Market on August 23rd, 2025.

The meeting adjourned at 5:52 PM



Nels Reese, Chair

June 26, 2025
Date

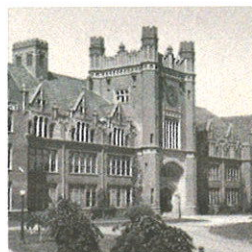
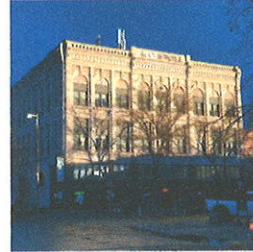
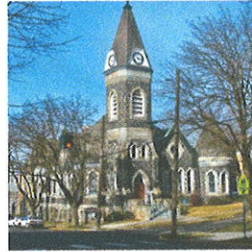
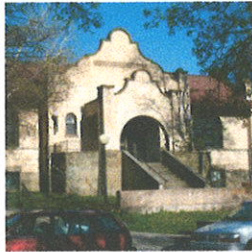


- mail or drop off at or near possible nominees
- Reverse of card to include:
 - encouragement to participate in 2025 Orchid Awards
 - QR Code and link to Orchid Award page.
 - Contact info?

Preservation Primer

for Moscow, Idaho

In 1972 with guidance from the **Idaho Bi-Centennial Commission**, thirteen Moscow buildings were listed as important historical properties. By 1979 these buildings were listed in the **National Register of Historic Places**. In 1980 the city sponsored its first historic district, known as The **Fort Russell Neighborhood District**. The district included 116 properties that were considered contributing to the historic period between 1884 and 1930.



Around the year 1990 the City of Moscow created a **Historic Preservation Commission** made up of nine citizen volunteers. The commission soon began recognizing people and activities in Moscow that supported the preservation within the city. To this date more than 150 Orchid Awards for preservation have been awarded.

In 2005 a second historic district was created that included 32 buildings in downtown, between 1st Street and 6th Street. In 2014 the Preservation Commission considered expanding the Fort Russell District to include homes built in the 1930s and to include the public structures adjacent to the original district. By 2017 that change had been made to the National Register and the district grew from 116 properties to nearly 180.

Currently the University of Idaho, with support from Moscow's Preservation Commission is working toward the creation of a third historic district in Moscow. This effort would be known as the **University of Idaho Historic District** and would include at least thirty contributing buildings.