

NORWICH HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Draft Minutes of the NHPC's Thursday, January 29, 2026 Meeting

Meeting was (in person at the Norwich Historical Society)

Commissioners Present: Jess Phelps, Gail Torkelson, and Susan Voake

Public Present: Sarah Rooker

NORWICH HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES

1. Approve Agenda

Susan Voake moved to approve the agenda; Gail Torkelson seconded the motion. The motion to approve the agenda passed (3-0).

2. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

3. Review of the November 4th Meeting Minutes.

Susan Voake moved to approve the minutes; Gail Torkelson seconded the motion. The motion to approve the November 4, 2025 minutes passed (3-0).

4. Discuss Future Preservation Programming/Historic Windows

The Commission discussed focusing on preservation education programs:

- The Commission began a series of outreach listserv posts related to providing information regarding our town's various National Register Districts. The first post, focused on the Village district, was posted this month and seems to have been well received. We will keep working through the districts and individually listed properties over the coming year.
- In the spring, the Commission will work with the Norwich Grange Hall to put on a program related to historic windows as their windows are being restored currently.
- The Commission will look at researching and providing information about Norwich buildings present during the American Revolution given the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence this summer.

5. Updates and Discussion

- Sarah Rooker provided an update on NHS activities and potential partnership opportunities.
- Commission Vacancies. The Commission continues to need more commissioners, and we have reached out to a few potential candidates to gauge interest.

6. Next Meeting

March 11th at 8:30 a.m. at the Norwich Historical Society

7. Adjourn

Susan Voake moved to adjourn the meeting.

Gail Torkelson seconded the motion.

The motion to adjourn passed unanimously (3-0).

Prepared by Jess Phelps, Clerk