

## NORWICH HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

### Draft Minutes of the NHPC's Wednesday, March 11, 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 January 29, 2026 Meeting Minutes.

Gail Torkelson moved to approve the minutes; Susan Voake seconded the motion. The motion to approve the January 29, 2026 minutes passed (3-0).

4. Discussion of Future Preservation Programming

The Commission discussed focusing on preservation education programs:

- The Commission has begun a series of outreach listserv posts related to providing information regarding our town's various National Register Districts. The second post, focused on the Jericho Road Historic District, was posted this month and seems to have been well received. The Commission will keep working through the districts and individually listed properties over the coming year.
- This 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. Jess Phelps will reach out to the contractor to determine the best time to host this.
- 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. This will include potentially creating a story map or other interactive tool for community use.

5. Updates and Discussion

- Sarah Rooker provided an update on NHS activities and potential partnership opportunities and reported that one of the more popular presentations for the Discover Norwich series over the last few years focused on the town's architecture.
- 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

May 27th 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