

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission held on Thursday, July 31, 2025 at 4:30 p.m. in the Development Services Conference Room, 119 East First Street, Winslow, Arizona.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Chairperson Law
Commissioner Black
Commissioner Emigh
Commissioner Evans
Commissioner Hartman

MEMBERS ABSENT

STAFF

Brandee Leary, City Liaison
Ashley Salyers, Recording Secretary

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Law at 4:30 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and a moment of silence was observed. Roll was called, and all members were present.

DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION TO APPROVE MINUTES –June 26, 2025

Motion: Moved by Commissioner Evans, seconded by Commissioner Black, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion passed unanimously with Chairperson Law and Commissioners, Black, Emigh, Evans and Hartman voting yes.

STATUS REPORTS

A. Update on the Historic District

The commission discussed whether to move forward with creating a historic district designation for Vargas Field and the surrounding complex. The idea is to treat the entire complex as one district, listing qualifying structures as “contributing” and others as “non-contributing.” Suggestions included referencing another city’s historic district paperwork to guide the process.

The commission agreed on a target completion date of May 15, 2026, aligning with the Little League season opening. This would allow time for preparing paperwork, getting city council approval, and completing the city’s process (without pursuing state or federal designation at this stage).

Motion: Moved by Commissioner Hartman, seconded by Commissioner Emigh, to establish the Winslow Historic District for the Hayden Walton Memorial Athletic Park by May 15, 2026. Motion passed unanimously with Chairperson Law and Commissioners, Black, Emigh, Evans and Hartman voting yes.

B. Update regarding Telephone Oral History

The City has set up a Telephone Oral History line for the commission, which is already running and has been promoted via a flyer and social media. The first theme is the Blizzard of 1967, suggested by a community member. So far, five messages have been received – four spam calls and one genuine, charming story about a railroad worker who hopped trains during the storm to make it home in time for an important dance. The story is saved on the city's network. Plans include re-sharing the project once school starts, updating themes and flyers as needed, and possibly involving the local newspaper for more promotion.

COMMISSION CONSIDERATION AND ACTION

A. Discussion and/or Action Regarding Brigham City restoration company and the City's standing with Brigham City

Brigham City Restoration Inc. was previously dissolved, causing its agreement with the City of Winslow to lapse. The site has since deteriorated significantly, and restoration would require substantial funding. Although the group has reinstated its corporate status, the city has no current funding, staff time, or interest in pursuing restoration at this time.

If the organization wants to resume work, it must request a new agreement directly with the city. The Historic Commission will not be involved unless asked by the city, and any tours or site access must be coordinated through the city manager. The property remains city-owned, with the city holding liability.

B. Discussion and/or Action Regarding August meeting schedule

Members of the commission had a brief discussion regarding canceling the August meeting. The commission agreed to cancel the meeting to account for members going out of town due to the Labor Day holiday weekend.

Motion: Moved by Commissioner Hartman, seconded by Chairperson Law, to cancel the Historic Preservation Commission meeting on August 28, 2025. Motion passed unanimously with Chairperson Law and Commissioners, Black, Emigh, Evans and Hartman voting yes.

DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION REGARDING FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Discussion regarding October, November and December meeting schedules
- Discussion regarding a table or booth set up as a commission for the Standing on the Corner festival, Car Show and the trunk or treat during Halloween

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Moved by Chairperson Law, seconded by Commissioner Evans, to adjourn at 4:47 p.m.
Motion passed unanimously with Chairperson Law and Commissioners, Black, Emigh, Evans and Hartman voting yes.

Brian F Law
Chairperson Law

ATTEST:

Ashley Salyers
Ashley Salyers, Recording Secretary