



State of Vermont  
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation  
1 National Life Drive, Davis Building, Floor 6  
Montpelier, VT 05620-0501

**DRAFT Minutes**  
**Vermont Advisory Council on Historic Preservation**  
**March 20, 2025, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

Microsoft Teams Meetings

- Council Participants:** Paul Wyncoop, Vice Chair/Citizen Member  
David Skinas, Archaeologist  
Britta Tonn, Architectural Historian  
Joseph Luneau, Citizen Member (left 9:43am)  
Paul Carnahan, Historian  
Ann Vivian, Architect  
Edward Clark, Chair/Citizen Member
- Staff Participants:** Elizabeth Peebles, State Architectural Historian  
Laura V. Trieschmann, State Historic Preservation Officer  
Max Krieger, General Counsel  
Scott Dillon, Senior Historic Preservation Review Coordinator  
Yvonne Benney Basque, Historic Resource Specialist – Archaeology  
Lindsay Pacheco, Administrative Services Coordinator
- Other Participants:** Chris Slesar, VTrans  
Elizabeth Shipley, FHWA  
Jeannine Russell, VTrans  
Emily Baker, VTrans  
Kyle Obenauer, VTrans  
John Kaczkowski, Swanton Cemetery Commission  
Brian Savage, Swanton Cemetery Commission

Meeting was recorded.  
Ed Clark opened the meeting at 9:05 a.m.

- I. Welcome**
- II. Changes to the Agenda**  
No changes to the agenda.
- III. Public Comment**  
No public comment.
- IV. Approval of Minutes:**
  - a. [February 20, 2025](#)



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Joe Luneau made a motion to approve February 20, 2025 minutes. Paul Wyncoop seconded the motion.

**Motion approved 6-0; Roll call vote**

Mr. Luneau: Yes  
Mr. Skinas: Abstain  
Ms. Tonn: Yes  
Ms. Vivian: Yes  
Mr. Wyncoop: Yes  
Mr. Carnahan: Yes  
Mr. Clark: Yes

**V. Annual Meeting**

a. Election of chair

- i. Paul Wyncoop made a motion to nominate Ed Clark to remain as chair, Britta Tonn seconded the motion. Britta Tonn made a motion to nominate Paul Wyncoop to remain as vice chair. Ann Vivian seconded the motion. State Historic Preservation Officer to serve as secretary. Joe Luneau motioned to close nominations, Ann Vivian seconded the motion. No discussion.

**Motion approved 7-0; Roll call vote**

Mr. Luneau: Yes  
Mr. Skinas: Yes  
Ms. Tonn: Yes  
Ms. Vivian: Yes  
Mr. Wyncoop: Yes  
Mr. Carnahan: Yes  
Mr. Clark: Yes

- ii. Ann Vivian made a motion to vote on the slate of officers. Paul Carnahan seconded the motion.

**Motion approved 7-0; Roll call vote**

Mr. Luneau: Yes  
Mr. Skinas: Yes  
Ms. Tonn: Yes  
Ms. Vivian: Yes  
Mr. Wyncoop: Yes  
Mr. Carnahan: Yes  
Mr. Clark: Yes

**VI. Federal Highway Administration and VTrans**

Chris Slesar presented on behalf of VTrans discussing their 2024 Annual Report. David Skinas inquired about archaeological sites that had been created in the past federal fiscal year that were not included in the annual report. Representatives from SHPO, VTrans,



and Federal Highway shall meet to review the required documentation per the programmatic agreement and information that could easily be provided for inclusion in the annual report. Projects with adverse effects do not fall under the programmatic agreement and are not included in the annual report.

## **VII. Department of Housing and Community Development General Counsel**

Max Krieger, general counsel for the Department, presented on the state code of ethics, conflict of interest policy, and open meeting law. The discussion included review of motion language and recusals.

## **VIII. Roadside Historic Site Markers**

### **a. [Cpl. Leonard A Lord, Swanton](#)**

Laura V. Trieschmann presented the Cpl. Leonard A Lord roadside marker application submitted by John Kaczowski from the Swanton Cemetery Commission. The marker meets Criterion 2 as a site associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

Britta Tonn made a motion to approve the Cpl. Leonard A Lord Roadside Historic Site Marker application with minor editing; Paul Wyncoop seconded the motion.

### **Motion approved 6-0; Roll call vote**

Mr. Luneau: Absent  
Mr. Skinas: Yes  
Ms. Tonn: Yes  
Ms. Vivian: Yes  
Mr. Wyncoop: Yes  
Mr. Carnahan: Yes  
Mr. Clark: Yes

## **IX. SHPO Report**

Laura V. Trieschmann presented the SHPO report.

### **a. Historic Preservation Fund Annual Report FY23-24**

- i. Highlighted the 2024 year in review for the Division for Historic Preservation, including 8 properties added to the National Register of Historic Places, 101 Archaeological Sites added to the State Archaeological Inventory, and 80,776 visitors to the Vermont State Historic Sites.
- ii. 2024 Success Stories
  - East Townshend Stone Arched Bridge was beautifully restored. VDHP will hold an easement as the Save America's Treasures funding to complete the project was granted through the National Park Service, which requires easements.
  - Ely Mine in Vershire is one of three copper mines in Vermont. Archaeologists started dealing with this site as a superfund in 2001. In 2023 and 2024, archaeologists completed data recovery under the supervision of State Archaeologist Jess Robinson. Over 25,000



artifacts were recovered, and are currently being catalogued at the Heritage Center.

- The final success story is the Emerson Dewitt Warehouse in Brattleboro. This was a Rehabilitation Tax Credit project. The rehabilitation was completed in 2024, providing 15 housing units to community. The building had previously been vacant since the 1980s before rehabilitation.

b. Staffing Updates

- i. William Gansle joined the Project Review team as the Limited Service Historic Resources Specialist – Architectural Historian.

c. Flood Mitigation

- i. VDHP is working with FEMA on statewide mitigation plan for all the flood buyouts from 2023-2024 to get funding from FEMA and Vermont Emergency Management to connect the documentation in the Online Resource Center regarding survey and listing with existing historic districts maps in select areas. This is a pilot that will document process, time capacity, and funding to enable this for the whole state.

d. Capital Bill Updates

- i. The governor recommended \$550,000 for major maintenance for state historic sites, which is recommended by House Committee on Corrections and Institution as well.
- ii. The Capital Bill as presented by the Administration included a pause for roadside marker funding for 10 years, but House Committee on Corrections and Institution proposed funding be continued.
- iii. House Committee on Corrections and Institution recommended Historic Preservation and Barn Preservation grants be funded at \$300,000 for each program. The Administration recommended funding for each of \$250,000.
- iv. There is currently additional funding for the safety fencing around the Bennington Monument, which is in BGS portion of the Capital Bill. ACCD asked to have the remaining \$419,000 moved to ACCD to enable maintenance of the fencing and restoration planning and design.

e. Other Updates

- i. Signed amendment to Federal Rail Administration's BUILD project with VTrans, involving 29 bridges. Construction of bridges happened before Section 106 consultation, which triggered noncompliance conversation. As mitigation, VDHP will be getting \$90,000 that will go towards updating the Online Resource Center.
- ii. The Historic Preservation Fund has been steady for the last two years at \$697,000, which is matched at 40% by the State. Upcoming funding is unknown for FFY25. Still working off funding from past two FFYs. For safety reasons, we have drawn down all of the reimbursement grant funds for the Certified Local Governments, which totals about \$160,000.

## **X. New Business**

a. Meeting Schedule 2025

- i. April 24, 2025 (CANCELLED)



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- ii. May 22, 2025
  - iii. June 19, 2025
  - iv. July 24, 2025
  - v. No August Meeting
  - vi. September 25, 2025
  - vii. October 23, 2025
  - viii. November 20, 2025
  - ix. December 18, 2025 (Historic Preservation Grant Review)

**XI. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 11:08 a.m.