

**Minutes for the July 21, 2025 Meeting of the**  
**Borough of Riverton Historic Preservation Commission**

1. Meeting was called to order by Chairman Lavery at 7:04 PM
2. Open Meetings Act was Read by Chairman Lavery
3. Roll Call was taken:
  - A. John Lavery (PRESENT)
  - B. Douglas Aird (PRESENT)
  - C. Roger Prichard (PRESENT)
  - D. Jack Parry (PRESENT)
  - E. Leslie Harrison (ABSENT)
  - F. Tyler Putman (ABSENT)
  - G. Hal Feinstein (PRESENT)
4. Chairman Lavery requested a motion to approve the minutes for the June 2025 HPC Meeting. Roger Prichard requested a slight 1 sentence amendment to the Minutes. A motion was made by Hal Feinstein to approve the minutes as amended by Roger Prichard. The motion was seconded by Doug Aird. A roll Call Vote was taken, and the motion was carried unanimously.
5. Old Business:

Chairman Lavery asked that Old Business be discussed after the conclusion of New Business in the interest of time for the applicants for the New Business. The HPC's members gave unanimous consent to this agenda change.
6. New Business:
  - A. Demolition of detached garage at 804 Main Street:

The owner, Mr. Wilkins Garcia, came before the HPC to explain to the HPC that the detached garage, that had been present at this property, was demolished before he closed on the purchase of the property. He had no explanation of who did the demolition, or when it occurred. He further offered that he desired to construct a new garage in the exact former location of the garage that had been demolished. He showed the HPC's Members, on his cell phone, the plans that had been prepared for the new garage. The HPC's members voted, per the following tally, to table any action on Mr. Garcia's situation: Lavery ((No), Aird (Yes), Prichard (Yes), Parry (Yes), and Feinstein (Yes.) So the motion to table any action carried by 4 (Yes) to 1 (No), with the Chairman being the sole dissenter. The HPC advised Mr. Garcia to visit the HPC's Administrative Officer, Ed Ruggiano, to start the process for applying to the HPC for a Certificate of Appropriateness for demolishing and replacing the detached garage at this address.

B. Second Floor addition to existing single family residence at 403 Midway:

The owners, Burgess, had their architect, John Gibson Martin, RA, AIA present the plans for this project. Prior to John Martine starting his presentation, HPC member (and Borough Historian) Roger Prichard asked to make a brief presentation on the history of this property. Mr. Prichard presented several documents as gifts to these new owners of this property, including an old photo of the builder of the house and his wife. The applicants were very appreciative of Mr. Prichard's presentation and gifts to them.

John Martin made his presentation of a very nice set of 24" x 36" plans that he had prepared. This project is the construction of a second story on top of an existing one story portion of the rear of the building. This work will be visible from Lippincott Ave. The windows and exterior finishes of the addition will emulate the windows and finishes on the existing house. Hal Feinstein made a motion to approved the proposed project without any conditions. Doug Aird seconded the motion. By a vote of 5 (Yes) to 0 (No) the motion carried.

7. Chairman Lavery requested a motion to open the meeting to the public for comment. Hal Feinstein made the motion, and it was seconded by Doug Aird. By a unanimous YES vote, the motion was carried, and the meeting was opened to the public. Donna (Hahle) Kirkland was the only member of the public to speak. She spoke in favor of the application for 403 Midway. She commented on remembering the house when she was growing up in the area. Chairman Lavery asked for a motion to close the meeting to the public. The motion was made by Feinstein, and seconded by Aird. It carried unanimously.
8. Old Business:  
Chairman Lavery discussed comments from the HPC's members regarding the draft of the amended HPO. In particular, Lavery discussed Tyler Putman's extensive comments. Hal Feinstein and Doug Aird agreed with Tyler's comments. Lavery stated that these comments would be considered when the group writing the HPO amendments meets on 7/29/25. Lavert, Prichard, and Parry had no comments. Lavery then asked Councilman Wilburn about the prospective timing of the first and second readings of the ordinance for the amended HPO. Wilburn felt that a September – October timeframe for the readings was still a good possibility. It remains undecided as to whether the Mayor will convene a public informational session for this matter in early September. The possibility exists that a Q&A paper on this subject may just be posted on the Borough's website.
9. Chairman Lavery asked for a motion to conclude the meeting. The motion was made by Doug Aird and seconded by Hal Feinstein. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion was unanimously carried by the HPC's members at 8:32 pm.