

Minutes for the Dec. 15, 2025 Meeting of the
Borough of Riverton Historic Preservation Commission

1. Meeting was called to order by Chairman Laverty at 7:01 PM
(Let the record reflect that the meeting is being recorded via the Borough's Zoom Meeting Account, and that as backup Roger Prichard is performing an audio recording of the meeting via his cell phone.)
2. Open Meetings Act was Read by Chairman Laverty
3. Roll Call was taken:
 - A. John Laverty (PRESENT)
 - B. Douglas Aird (PRESENT)
 - C. Roger Prichard (PRESENT)
 - D. Jack Parry (ABSENT)
 - E. Leslie Harrison (ABSENT)
 - F. Tyler Putman (PRESENT)
 - G. Hal Feinstein (PRESENT)
4. Due to the absences of regular HPC Members Jack Parry and Leslie Harrison, Chairman Laverty requested a motion by attending regular HPC Members to stipulate that alternate HPC Members, Tyler Putman and Hal Feinstein, shall have standing to vote on any matters discussed during this evening's meeting. The motion was made by Roger Prichard, and seconded by Doug Aird. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion was carried by a 3 – 0 vote.
5. Chairman Laverty requested approval of the Minutes for the Oct. 2025 HPC Meeting. Hal Feinstein made the motion to approve these minutes, and the motion was seconded by Doug Aird. A Roll Call Vote was taken, and the motion was carried by a vote of 4 – 0, with Tyler Putman abstaining.
6. New Business:
 - A. Proposed Fence at 309 2nd St. (Owner = Loretta Zorn.)
 1. Loretta Zorn stood, and swore to the truth of her testimony.
 2. Loretta Zorn presented her plans and supporting application materials.
 3. Roger Prichard questioned the proximity of a large tree to the proposed gate near the detached garage. Loretta Zorn stated that there was more than sufficient distance for placing the gate.
 4. Roger Prichard also stated that the New England caps for the fence posts would be preferable.
 5. There were no other questions or comments of substance from other members of the HPC.

6. Chairman Laverty requested a motion to open the discussion on this matter to the public. The motion was made by Hal Feinstein, and seconded by Doug Aird. A simple vote was taken, and the motion was carried unanimously. There were no comments made by the public, and the discussion was closed to the public.
7. Chairman Laverty informed the Owner that the requirement to appear before the HPC had been met, and that the Owner could now proceed to obtain the needed permits for the fence.

B. Proposed Fence at 202 2nd St. (Owner = Marie Gaffney.)

1. Marie Gaffney stood, and swore to the truth of her testimony.
2. Marie Gaffney presented her plans and supporting application materials.
3. Doug Aird suggested that the street-facing gate be a double gate of two (2) 3' wide sections instead of a single 6' wide section.
4. Chairman Laverty suggested that the proposed fence be boxed around the tree along the rear PL to maximize privacy, and avoid damage to the tree.
5. There were no other comments of substance from other members of the HPC.
6. Chairman Laverty requested a motion to open the discussion on this matter to the public. The motion was made by Roger Prichard and seconded by Hal Feinstein. A simple vote was taken, and the motion was carried unanimously. There were no comments made by the public, and the discussion was closed to the public.
7. Chairman Laverty informed the Owner that the requirement to appear before the HPC had been met, and that the Owner could now proceed to obtain the needed permits for the fence.

C. Proposed Fence at 400 Main St. (Owner = Murillo Sousa)

1. Murillo Sousa stood, and swore to the truth of her testimony.
2. Murillo Sousa presented his plans and supporting application materials.
3. There were no other comments of substance from other members of the HPC.
4. Chairman Laverty requested a motion to open the discussion on this matter to the public. The motion was made by Hal Feinstein and seconded by Doug Aird. A simple vote was taken, and the motion was carried unanimously. There were no comments made by the public, and the discussion was closed to the public.
5. Chairman Laverty informed the Owner that the requirement to appear before the HPC had been met, and that the Owner could now proceed to obtain the needed permits for the fence.

7. Old Business:

A. Roger Prichard, at the request of Chairman Laverty, conducted a brief summary of the planning efforts and date for a Borough Council – sponsored special meeting for educating the public on the proposed amendments to the HPO. It will be requested of Council that Roger Prichard and John Laverty moderate the meeting. The meeting will be held on January 28, 2026 at 7 PM at the Riverton Public School's Media Center.

- B. Doug Aird stated that no progress had been made yet by his subcommittee in developing a formal application document. Doug agreed that late January 2026 would likely be the timeframe for delivering the draft of this document.
- C. Tyler Putman asked for the status on the following:
 - 1. A revised landscape maintenance ordinance. Chair Laverty responded that he was unaware of the status of that ordinance with Borough Council.
 - 2. A letter from a Borough resident regarding landscape maintenance standards, particularly in regard to the strip between the sidewalk and the street curb. Chairman Laverty stated that he was aware of this letter, but that it had not been submitted to the HPC.
 - 3. The status of the detached garage that is being rebuilt at 804 Main Street. Chairman Laverty stated that the owner and Jack Parry had mutually signed off on the plans for the garage, and that it would be constructed in accordance with the plans
- 8. Chairman Laverty requested a motion to open the meeting to the public. Doug Aird made the motion, and it was seconded by Roger Prichard. The motion was carried by a vote of 5 – 0, and the meeting was opened to the public.
 - A. Councilman Edgar Wilburn spoke about input that he was gathering from the outgoing Planning Board Secretary regarding recommended administrative procedures for the HPC. Chairman Laverty stated that this input was welcomed, and that it would be provided to the incoming HPC Secretary.
 - B. Nicole Belolan stated that she was looking forward to the special meeting of Borough Council on January 28, 2026, regarding educating the public on the proposed amendments to the HPO.
 - C. Chairman Laverty requested a motion to close the meeting to the public. A Motion was made by Doug Aird, and it was seconded by Roger Prichard. A Roll Call Vote was taken, and the motion was carried by a vote of 5 – 0.
- 9. Chairman Laverty adjourned the meeting at 8:07 PM