

**GROVE CITY HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL ARTS
COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
May 14, 2026**

Agenda Item A: Call to Order/Roll Call

Chair Janet Shailer called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Proper public notice had been given.

Members Present

- Janet Shailer, Chair
- Jeff Warner, Vice Chair
- John Maxson, Member
- Chloe Dickson, Member
- Lisa Napier-Garcia, Member

Members Absent

- Linda Hall, Member

Lisa Napier-Garcia moved to excuse Linda Hall's absence. The motion was seconded by Chloe Dickson.

Vote Taken – Motion Approved.

Others in Attendance

- Leanne Watkins, Museum Representative
- Bryana Ross, Parks and Recreation, Deputy Director
- Lincoln [Last name not provided], Historical Society intern

Agenda Item B: Moment of Silence and Pledge of Allegiance

Agenda Item C: Approval of Minutes

The Commission reviewed the minutes from the April 9, 2026 regular meeting.

Janet Shailer moved to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded by Chloe Dickson.

Lisa Napier-Garcia abstained from the vote.

Vote Taken – Motion Approved.

Agenda Item D: New Items

1. Finance Report

Discussion was held regarding recent expenditures and reimbursements.

Bryana Ross reported that Russell Haskell and the Southwest Franklin County Historical Society (SWFCHS) were paid. Questions were raised regarding an educational expense associated with the SWFCHS payment. Chair Shailer explained the expense related to the recent historical dress presentation held at the library, which was attended by approximately 80 people.

Additional discussion included:

- The purchase of a mannequin by the Historical Society for display of the Grant dress.
- Ongoing presentation and display improvements at the Grant-Sawyer House.
- Remaining treasury matters related to the historical dress project, which are expected to be resolved by the next meeting.

John Maxson noted that \$5,000 had originally been allocated for the project, including payments to the seamstress and related presentation expenses.

The Commission also discussed:

- The completed Century Village assessment/report.
- Pending quotes and purchase orders.
- Printing expenses associated with Jim Hale's book project through Wright Graphics.

Chair Shailer reported that Jennifer Uhrin had submitted requests for:

- A quote for a historical plaque at 3980 Broadway.
- Production of the John Hoover sign.

Janet Shailer moved to approve the requested expenditures. The motion was seconded by Chloe Dickson.

Vote Taken – Motion Approved.

2. Proposed Expenditures

Lisa Napier-Garcia stated she would follow up with Jennifer Uhrin regarding several proposed expenditures.

Additional discussion was held regarding another historical Grant family dress recently discovered at the house. Julie [Last Name Not Provided] may be able to create a reproduction of the 1860s-era "Dolly Varden" dress at an estimated cost of approximately \$2,500. Commission members discussed the possibility of including the project as part of Grove City's upcoming 175th anniversary celebration.

3. Museum Update

Chair Shailer shared photographs of the Grant dress exhibit.

John Maxson reported:

- Strong attendance at the dress reveal event.
- The event was recorded and may be posted online for educational and historical reference.
- A recent transportation history presentation covering the Revolutionary War era through the railroad period attracted approximately 40 attendees.
- The event also served as a fundraiser and included a meal prepared and served by volunteers.

Additional updates included:

- Continued repairs to the Bob Evans barn at Century Village.
- Increased school tour activity requiring additional preparation and cleaning.
- Continued volunteer recruitment efforts.
- An internship opportunity for Lincoln to fulfill high school requirements.
- Planning for a joint June 6 event with the military museum in Harrisburg featuring:
 - A car show
 - Bluegrass bands

- Reenactors
- Vendors
- Open historical buildings

Chair Shailer also noted that a backup Grant dress and second apron are now on display in the museum.

5. LTOB Update

Lisa Napier-Garcia reported that Little Theatre Off Broadway (LTOB) performed the “Women of Grove City” production in March in recognition of Women’s History Month. The production involved significant community collaboration and received positive feedback, with possible future repeat performances being discussed.

Additional updates included:

- Completion of the 2025–2026 season.
- Upcoming performances by students in grades 7–12 of It’s a Madhouse.
- Announcement of the 2026–2027 theater season, now posted on the LTOB website.

Agenda Item E: Open Discussion

Chair Shailer shared information received from Jim Hale regarding a potential historical marker recognizing the former Spellman Airfield, located near South Broadway and Babbert Way.

Discussion included:

- The historical significance of the small airfield used during the 1940s.
- The possibility of installing a granite ground marker with a QR code containing historical information.
- A draft proposal already prepared by Jim Hale.

Members agreed to revisit the discussion at the next meeting when Jennifer Uhrin and Linda Hall are present.

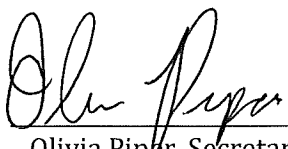
John Maxson requested that Chair Shailer forward the information from Jim Hale to all Commission members.

Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Grove City Historical and Cultural Arts Commission will be held in June 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

Adjournment

Chloe Dickson moved to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 9:45 a.m.


Olivia Piper, Secretary

Janet Shailer, Chair