

Historic Preservation Commission
Minutes - January 13, 2026

1. Call to Order: Chairman Griffin called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.
2. Roll Call: Chairman Griffin; Commissioners Beroza, Hubbard, Sanders, and Taylor were present.

Staff: Joe Duffy – Community Development Director and Christine Sewell – Recording Clerk

Guests – Ellie Loudermilk – Ms. Loudermilk advised the Houston County Board of Commissioners has established a historian position, and she has been appointed to fulfill the role, which will assist in grant writing and the process of record retention; the board congratulated her on new role.

3. Guests – 2026 Welcome – Mayor Randall Walker and City Manager Robert Smith – tabled until the February meeting
4. Citizens with Input – none
5. Election of 2026 Officers – Chairman, Vice Chairman, and Secretary

Commissioner Beroza motioned to nominate Andrew Griffin as Chairman; Commissioner Taylor seconded; all in favor with Commissioner Griffin abstaining and was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Hubbard motioned to nominate Val Sanders as Vice Chairman; Commissioner Beroza seconded; all in favor with Commissioner Sanders abstaining and was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Sanders motioned to nominate Joe Duffy as Secretary; Commissioner Griffin seconded; all in favor and was unanimously approved.

6. Approval of the Agenda – Commissioner Beroza motioned to approve as presented; Commissioner Sanders seconded; all in favor and was unanimously approved.
7. Approval of Minutes – October 14, 2025, meeting – Commissioner Taylor motioned to approve as presented; Commissioner Sanders seconded; all in favor and was unanimously approved.
8. New Business – 2026 Commission Goals – Chairman Griffin opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Sanders advised she had viewed a webinar regarding a study on historic content, which brought people into the history of a community. Commissioner Taylor provided information on various grant programs through the National Park Service. Commissioner Hubbard suggested heritage site designations; Commissioner Sanders agreed and listed the following for consideration: Sinclair Station, Perry Area Historical Society, Evergreen Cemetery and Perry Events Center. It was recommended research be done and brought back forth.

Chairman Griffin inquired about the Old Field Area; and Commissioner Hubbard agreed with a historic designation, but not for the process of COA applications. Chairman Griffin suggested contacting Historic Macon and Commissioner Taylor suggested Mary Wilson Joseph with the Georgia African American Historic Preservation Network; the Commission agreed and it was suggested to seek both for a future work session discussion.

Commissioner Hubbard suggested a work session to discuss COA applications prior to the public hearing to allow the Commission additional review time, ask questions, request additional information if needed and felt necessary for new buildings and windows; and felt this would result in a smoother process for the applicant and not delay applications. Discussion ensued and it was decided that a work session will be held prior to the Commission's regular meeting at 5:45pm.

Commissioner Sanders asked for a status update on how to make correction to the DCA report of designation, stand alone designation for city owned properties, historical markers, an City's pursuit of a Certified Local Government; Mr. Duffy advised he will follow up on these items. Commissioner Sanders also suggested educational meetings for citizens and realtors; the Commission agreed more visibility and education is needed; Mr. Duffy advised he will reach out to the Communications department for input.

9. Adjournment: there being no further business to come before the Commission the meeting was adjourned at 7:06pm.

Approved 02.10.26