



**CITY OF JOHN DAY
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES July 15, 2025**

PLANNING COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Tim Unterwegner, Planning Commission
Neale Ledgerwood, Planning Commission
Linda Pifer, Planning Commission
Ed Newby, Planning Commission

PLANNING COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

Valerie Maynard, Planning Commission
Jim Spell, Planning Commission

STAFF PRESENT:

Melissa Bethel, City Manager
Henry Hearley, Contract Planner

Agenda Item No. 1—Call Meeting to Order

The Planning Commission meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm.

Agenda Item No. 2—Pledge of Allegiance

The Planning Commission stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda Item No. 3—Roll Call and Attendance

The John Day Planning Commission did a roll call.

Agenda Item No. 4—Staff Report

Hearley gave a staff report. On June 25th the Planning Commission passed a motion close the public hearing but leave the record open for seven days to allow for additional written testimony. During that time Mr. Robertson submitted a response letter. After reviewing all of Mr. Robertson's arguments and grievances staff recommends that the Planning Commission recommends approval, with conditions, remains the same as what was presented June 25, 2025.

Agenda Item No. 5—Deliberation: (file# SDR 24-01)

The Oregon State Parks & Recreation Department (OPRD) is requesting Site Design Review for the new construction of the Kam Wah Chung State Heritage Site and Interpretive Center. OPRD also requests the vacation of two historical easements on the site; a historic setback and a waterline easement that is no longer needed. This application is being elevated to a type IV land use review. ***The Planning Commission reconvened its meeting from June 25, 2025. At the close of the June 25 hearing, the Commission passed a motion to close the public hearing but leave the record open for seven days to allow for additional written testimony. The Planning Commission will only review the information submitted during the open record period and will deliberate to formulate a recommendation to the City Council. The record is closed, and no longer oral or written testimony will be accepted.***

Commissioner Ledgerwood moved to recommend approval to the City Council with the conditions as outlined in the staff report. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Newby and passed unanimously.

Agenda Item No. 7—Planning Commission Comments

This item will be on the August 12th City Council agenda.

Commissioner Unterwegner stated this meeting is the last one he will be attending as he resigned from the Planning Commission.

Adjourn:

There being no further business before the planning commission the meeting was adjourned.

Melissa Bethel, CM