

City Clerk Staff

From: Gwen Jones
Sent: Tuesday, March 21, 2023 12:24 PM
To: Ross Best; Grp. City Council and City Web Site
Subject: Re: Easy access to Historic Preservation Commission agendas and minutes

Ross, thank you for the email. I am glad you were able to find the documents that you needed. I am cc'ing the City Clerk's office so that they have this input. -Gwen

Gwen Jones
Ward 3 City Councilwoman
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Note: All emails to and from this address are in the public domain.

From: Ross Best <rossbest@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, March 20, 2023 9:16 PM
To: Grp. City Council and City Web Site <Council@ci.missoula.mt.us>
Subject: Re: Easy access to Historic Preservation Commission agendas and minutes

I have found my way through the maze of the City's website. But I renew my request for an easy link on the Historic Preservation Commissions webpage. A citizen who wants ready access to agendas and minutes going back a few years should only have to click a few times and not navigate laboriously through irrelevant listings for the Council or other bodies of the City.

Thank you!

On Monday, March 20, 2023 at 08:58:37 PM MDT, Ross Best <rossbest@yahoo.com> wrote:

Hello,

An important matter regarding land use at Fort Missoula will be before the Historic Preservation Commission on April 5. I would like to review past agendas and minutes of the Commission in preparation for that meeting.

But even though I am a well-educated person of high intelligence with a good computer and internet connection and above-average internet skills and knowledge of City government, I am unable to find an archive of such documents on the City's website.

The webpage for the Commission has links that after much clicking and scratching my head have only led me around in circles.

I've had no more success starting from other webpages, such as that of the City Clerk.

The hopeful-looking archives page at

<https://www.ci.missoula.mt.us/Archive.aspx>

has documents for just one "subcommittee" meeting (unhelpfully identified as "HPC") from 2019.

Members of the public should not be required to jump through numerous hoops in search of the historical record for a given board or commission -- especially when the hoops lead nowhere. Some of the links are dead.

I request that members of the City Council or someone in the Mayor's office immediately make sure that the webpage for the Historic Preservation Commission has a clearly identified link that leads to an actual collection of agendas and minutes of the Commission.

There should be such links on the webpages for all of the various boards, commissions, committees, and related public bodies of City government.

I am not just requesting that someone send me a link that will take me to the appropriate archives. I am asking that you take pity on members of the general public generally and make these documents easily available online.

And forgive me for adding, based upon my experience with the City's website in past years, that I will not appreciate any emails from Council members that suggest that it is easy for members of the public to find these documents and imply that I must be clumsy or foolish for not finding them.

Thank you!

Ross Best