

SUMMARY ACTION MINUTES
(Action Items Displayed in Italics)
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2025 — 10:00 a.m.

I. ROLL CALL

Chair Skorpanich, Vice-Chair Sarkis, and Commissioners Chinn, Gossett, Harrell, Johannes, Moodian, Richonne, and Yauger were present. Commissioners Brown, Senft, and Thoms were absent.

II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

At this time, members of the public may address the Commission on items of public interest that are within the jurisdiction of the Commission and are not contained in today's agenda.

No comments were received from the public.

III. PRESENTATION(S) (ITEM(S) A)

Melanie Goss has been a dedicated member of OC Parks for several years, having initially contributed as a volunteer before eventually being promoted to Park Maintenance Supervisor for Cultural Resources Operations. Her efforts have been instrumental in the maintenance and preservation of all OC Parks historical sites. In recognition of her dedication and service, OC Parks and the OC Historical Commission are honored to present Melanie Goss with a certificate of recognition.

Melanie Goss accepted the certificate of recognition.

IV. CONSENT CALENDAR (ITEM(S) A)

The following item(s) on the consent calendar will be approved by one motion unless a Commissioner requests to pull a specific item.

A. APPROVE COMMISSION MINUTES FOR THE NOVEMBER 4, 2025 MEETING

Motion: Commissioner Richonne

2nd: Commissioner Gossett

Approved 9–0

V. STAFF UPDATE (ITEM(S) A)

A. CULTURAL RESOURCES OPERATIONS FACILITY UPDATE

Staff will give an update on the recent happenings within the Cultural Resources Operations at historical facilities.

Dennis Shaffer, OC Parks Operations Manager, provided an update on current projects at the historical facilities, provided dates for upcoming special events, and answered the Commissioners' questions.

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VI. DISCUSSION CALENDAR (ITEM(S) A-D)

A. COMMISSION'S PROPOSED 2026 MEETING AND FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE

The Commission's meeting and field trip schedule is provided for review and approval.

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):

Approve the Commission's 2026 meeting and field trip schedule.

Motion: Commissioner Sarkis

2nd: Commissioner Chinn

Approved 9-0

B. SELECTION OF COMMISSION OFFICERS FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2026

The bylaws of the Commission require that the Commission elect a Chair and Vice Chair for the calendar year during the last meeting of the year.

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):

Elect Commissioners to serve in the following positions for Calendar Year 2026.

1. Orange County Historical Commission Chair

2. Orange County Historical Commission Vice Chair

Commissioner Richonne made a motion to elect Commissioner Skorpanich for a second year as Chair and Commissioner Richonne as Vice Chair.

Motion: Commissioner Richonne

2nd: Commissioner Johannes

Approved 9-0

C. DISCUSSION OF NOMINATING THE HISTORIC YORBA CEMETERY TO THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

The Commission will discuss the possible nomination of the Historic Yorba Cemetery to be part of the National Register of Historic Places and the creation of a limited-duration ad-hoc committee to research the procedure and planning of this nomination.

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RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):

1. Recommend the Chair establish the Historic Yorba Cemetery National Register of Historic Places Nomination Ad-Hoc Committee with a dissolution date of April 7, 2026.
2. Recommend the Chair select up to three Commissioners to serve on the Historic Yorba Cemetery National Register of Historic Places Nomination Ad-Hoc Committee until the dissolution date.

John Gump, OC Parks, answered Commissioners' questions.

Dennis Shaffer, OC Parks, answered Commissioners' questions.

Chair Skorpanich requested volunteers for the Ad-Hoc Committee. Commissioners Yauger, Gossett, Skorpanich, and Harrell volunteered.

Commissioner Gossett made a motion to recommend that the Chair create the Historic Yorba Cemetery National Register of Historic Places Nomination Ad-Hoc Committee with a dissolution date of April 7, 2026. The motion included the volunteers on the committee.

*Motion: Commissioner Gossett
2nd: Commissioner Moodian
Approved 9–0*

Chair Skorpanich established the Historic Yorba Cemetery National Register of Historic Places Nomination Ad-Hoc Committee with a dissolution date of April 7, 2026 consisting of the Commissioners who volunteered to serve on the Ad-Hoc Committee.

VII. COMMISSIONER ROLES REPORTS

Commissioners will provide updates on the latest developments or request input from the Commission in their roles.

1. Brown – Oral Histories
2. Chinn – Historic Preservation
3. Harrell – Arden: Helena Modjeska Historic House and Gardens
4. Johannes – Public Events
5. Moodian – Oral Histories
6. Richonne – Website & Publications

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7. Sarkis -- Networking Event
8. Senft – Finance & Website
9. Skorpanich—Website
10. Thoms – Cooper Center
11. Yauger -- Networking Event

Commissioners provided updates for their roles if they had information to provide.

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):

Receive and file.

The item was received and filed.

VIII. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND REPORT

At this time Commissioners may comment on agenda or non-agenda matters, provided that no action may be taken on off-agenda items unless authorized by law.

IX. ADJOURNMENT 11:24 a.m.