



City of Grand Forks

Staff Report

Committee of the Whole - July 14, 2025

City Council - July 21, 2025

APPROVED & ACCEPTED
by City Council

07/21/2025

Maureen Storstad
Maureen Storstad
City Auditor

Agenda Item: Reappointments to Grand Forks Historic Preservation Commission

Submitted by: Mayor Brandon Bochenski

Staff Recommended Action: Confirm the reappointment for Commissioners for August 1st, 2025 - August 1st, 2027

COW Action: Motion by Weigel, second by Osowski to move item to City Council with a recommendation to approve. Motion carried unanimously.

City Council Action: Motion by Berg, second by Weigel to approve on consent agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

BACKGROUND: The Grand Forks Historic Preservation Commission provides research, resources, and expertise in the exercise of the City's preservation goals and needs. The Commission provides local review for historic projects which would otherwise be reviewed by the state or federal government; time is saved and local control is maintained. The city's budget allocation is doubled through the Commission's grant writing efforts, and the City's economic development efforts are enhanced by historic building preservation projects which the Commission actively promotes and facilitates. Grand Forks is more attractive and vibrant as a result of its commitment to historic preservation evidenced by the work of the Historic Preservation Commission.

The Grand Forks Historic Preservation Commission consists of eleven community members from Grand Forks. Those members are appointed by the mayor and shall be persons who, in the opinion of the mayor, have demonstrated outstanding interest and knowledge in historical or architectural development. A majority of the commission members shall be made up of persons from among professionals in the disciplines of architecture, history, architectural history, planning, archeology or other historic preservation related disciplines, such as urban planning, American studies, American civilization, cultural geography or cultural anthropology, to the extent that such professionals are available in the community.

ANALYSIS AND FINDINGS OF FACT:

The following members have indicated their willingness to continue to serve on the Commission for terms beginning **August 1st**: I recommend the reappointment of:

- Dr. Douglas Munski (2-year term). Dr. Munski is a geography professor at UND and brings a professional background in the area of urban planning.
- Mr. Brian Carlson (2-year term). Mr. Carlson is an architect with JLG Architects and brings a professional background and technical knowledge in architecture.
- Ms. Nicole Derenne (2-year term). Member-at- Large, community member
- Ms. Judy Swisher (2-year term). Member-at-Large, community member