

Aurora Historical Society

Aurora, Colorado



Embrace your city, your past

Minutes

Regular Aurora Historical Society Meeting

September 30, 2025, 6:00 pm, Aurora History Museum

35 individuals attended

Aurora History Museum (AHM) Staff: Scott Williams, Director & Chris Geddes, Historic Preservation Specialist, Callie Lyn-Kew, Intern

Aurora Historical Society (AHS) Board Members: Gordon Tucker, Lynne Evans, Nadine Caldwell, Gregg Chase, Susan Hicks, Judy Keilman

Aurora Museum Foundation (AMF) Board Members: Paul Langston, Wenda Campbell, Nancy O'Neill, Debra Wallace

1. **Meeting Called to Order:** President Gordon Tucker welcomed those present and called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. A quorum was present.
2. **Program:** Susan Hicks introduced the program and the speaker. Our speaker was Susan Frontczak, performing as former First Lady and U.N. Ambassador Eleanor Roosevelt, discussing the creation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Ms. Frontczak's performance was exceptional. She then answered questions from the audience, both in character and out of character.
3. **Historic Preservation High School Intern Report:** Chris Geddes, Historic Preservation Specialist, introduced her summer intern. The Aurora Historical Society funded the internship. 2025 Intern, Callie Lyn-Kew, is a junior at Grandview High School in Aurora. Callie took a series of photos of the inside and outside of the Paul S. Beck Recreation Center to document it before it is demolished. Her second project was Colfax: Then and Now. Callie explained that she reviewed the museum's photo archive, selected older photos, and then took pictures of what Colfax looked like in the present day at the exact location. She then displayed the "Then" photo next to the "Now" photo. Both photo projects will be on display at the museum at a later date.
4. **Honoring Ruth Schmunk:** AHS President Gordon Tucker, AMF President Paul Langston, and AHM Director Scott Williams honored Ruth Schmunk for her years of volunteering for all three and her generous donations of \$5,000 to both the Aurora Historical Society and the Aurora Museum Foundation. Her name will be added to the Museum supporter plaque hanging in the museum's lobby. A small plaque recognizing Ruth will also be placed on a bench in the museum's patio entry. A Cake honoring Ruth

was served. Ruth made an additional donation of \$100 to the Aurora Historic Newspaper Digitization Project during the meeting.

5. AHS Business Meeting

- a. **Approval of the Minutes:** The May minutes were sent by email with the AHS meeting reminder. President Gordon Tucker asked if there were any corrections to the minutes. The spelling of Judy Keilman's and Susan Hicks' names was corrected. A motion was made to approve the minutes as corrected and passed by voice vote.
- b. **President's Report:** President Gordon Tucker gave his report. He stated he was looking forward to the coming year and introduced the AHS board members. He then introduced his "Circles of Influence" graphic and explained his goal of working together to preserve our heritage.
- c. **Treasurer's Report:** Gregg Chase gave the Treasurer's report dated August 31, 2025:

Total Income	\$7,482.50
Total Expenses	\$8,406.17
Net Ordinary Income	(\$923.67)

Account Balances:

PNC Checking	\$16,244.10
PNC Money Market	\$60,541.10
Canvass CU	\$5.00
Canvass CD	\$43,758.81
Total	\$120,529.01

The Treasurer's report has been filed for specific questions about the report, contact Treasurer Gregg Chase.

- 6. **Door Prize drawing:** A drawing was held for a puzzle. Wenda Campbell won the door prize.

The meeting closed at 7: 46 pm.

Submitted by Lynne Evans, Secretary, October 1, 2025.