

Minutes
Historic State Capitol Commission
Commission Meeting
July 8, 2010

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Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Commissioners of the Historic State Capitol Commission, held pursuant to due notice, at the California State Capitol, Room 113, Sacramento, California on Thursday, July 8, 2010, at approximately 9:37 am PST.

Presiding: Dick Cowan, Chair

Commissioners Present

Stacey Aldrich
Lizzetta LeFalle-Collins
Melodi Andersen (for Nancy Lenoil)
Luis Sanchez
Jenan Saunders (for Wayne Donaldson)

Visitors

Dan Visnich, California Capitol Historic Preservation Society
Jay Correia, Office of Historic Preservation
Bruce Stiny, CA State Parks
Harvey Wilson, Purple Heart
Marilyn Nelson, Department of General Services
Viletta Campbell, Department of General Services
Angela Verbaere, Department of General Services
Teresa Kaneko, Department of General Services
Donna Durham, Department of General Services
Les Strike, Department of General Services
John Feliz, Assembly Rules Facilities

Koren Benoit, Executive Director/Curator and recording secretary

I. Call to Order; Roll Call; Introduction of Visitors

Mr. Cowan called the meeting to order at 9:37 am. The recording secretary read the roll. Mr. Cowan asked visitors to introduce themselves.

II. Approval of Minutes

Motion: Mr. Sanchez

2nd: Ms. Saunders

Approved: Yes

Action: To approve the February and April meeting minutes with corrections to the spelling of Melodi Andersen's name and to Dick Cowan's title (Chair from Vice-chair).

III. Special Presentations

A. Purple Heart Memorial

Mr. Harvey Wilson, Commander, Military Order of the Purple Heart, Capitol Chapter #385, provided materials on the proposed Purple Heart memorial for Capitol Park (AB2171; Chaptered 9/29/08). The design of the memorial stone is used nationwide; there are already 4 stones in the State of California. The stone would be part of the All Wars Memorial in Capitol Park (the legislation requires that any new veterans' memorial be constructed within the boundaries of the Capitol Veterans Memorial). The Purple Heart medal is the oldest medal given to combat soldiers. A ceremony is planned in conjunction with the August 7th proclamation, signed by the Governor, which honors all Purple Heart recipients. Mr. Wilson estimated 5-7 days for installation.

B. Budget Briefing

Angela Verbaere, Assistant Chief with DGS, provided the Commission with an overview of the budget. DGS's Building Property Management Branch (BPM) is charged with the maintenance, repair and upkeep of state-owned properties, including the State Capitol. Staff provides custodial, engineering, maintenance, electrical and painting services. The yearly budget for upkeep of the State Capitol building is provided through a statewide surcharge that is applied to all state agencies and departments (everyone pays a portion). The surcharge is collected in arrears. Maintenance and special repair project monies are recouped through the surcharge. There is no public involvement in the budget process. Ms. Kaneko clarified that DGS does not follow the typical capital outlay process. Capitol projects are special cases. The size of the project normally dictates who runs the project:

- Maintenance – routine, small repairs, i.e. relamping, repainting, etc. No dollar threshold.
- Special Repairs - larger than regular maintenance projects but not large enough to dictate a capital outlay, i.e. not a major renovation. BPM works with PMB and Joint Rules to set up 5 year plans. Not routine maintenance. Not specifically appropriated.
- Major Capital Outlay projects – similar to the Infrastructure Study; specifically appropriated.

IV. Old Business

A. 2009 Annual Report

Members reviewed the final draft.

Motion: Ms. Saunders

2nd: Mr. Sanchez

Approved: Yes

Action: To go to print on the 2009 Annual Report.

B. Department of General Services

1. Project Management Branch (PMB)

a. Infrastructure Study, Master Plan

Ms. Durham explained that DGS has an ARF (Architectural Revolving Fund) that bridges fiscal years. There was a reversion of \$2 million from BPM, special projects, the Master Plan and the Infrastructure repair project (life, safety and security). DGS retained some funds for critical needs – water intrusions, pavilion exterior doors, and funds for UC Davis portion of the Master Plan. DGS hopes to hire a firm next year to produce the Master plan. Infrastructure study projects to be completed include installing new electrical panels, and then coming back to add outlets, etc. The other repair items are servicing the existing emergency generator system, repairing the mechanical systems, repairing water leaks and replacing the East Annex entry doors (Joint Rules IA). Repairs to the Library and Courts building are still in the bidding process.

b. Memorials

Ms. Nelson explained that the contract for the Mexican-American Memorial has been awarded to Quadriga Landscape. They will be surveying the area in July. They are proceeding with preliminary plans and hope to have conceptual drawings by October. Their hope is to have the memorial completed by May 2011.

c. East Annex historic structures report

Ms. Benoit informed members that there is a historic structures report on the East Annex in the 2nd volume of the Infrastructure study. It focuses on the exterior and the main public interior spaces.

2. Building and Property Management Branch (BPM)

a. Tree Maintenance

Les Strike provided a tree update. On the west side, there have been elm trees removed by both DGS and the city. The palm trees have also been trimmed. DGS has done as much as they can with the trees on State property. New trees are not a big budget item; many are donated through the CA Tree Foundation. Mr. Strike agreed to contact the city about trimming the trees at 11th Street (North and South).

C. State Parks/State Capitol Museum

Mr. Stiny provided an update on exhibits: the most recent exhibit, "This Means War", opened a few weeks ago and focuses on the historic flag collection and California's role in the Spanish-American War. Next year's exhibit will focus on WWI flags and California's role in the war. The Thomas Starr King exhibit has been extended for several more months. The next exhibit, "The Most Glorious Heritage," celebrates the history of California State Parks. In 2011, parks will be working with SAMCC on an exhibit on

Women and the Vote, with a companion exhibit on Teddy Roosevelt at the Stanford Mansion. State Parks is revisiting the kiosk project (they were purchased prior to thinking the project through). Ms. Benoit added that three Senate brochures that State Parks uses – Visitor's Guide, Kid's Guide and State Capitol Park – have all been updated.

D. Goals/Subcommittee Reports

1. Maintenance Plan – nothing to report.
2. Communication - Ms. Benoit reminded members that liaison letters will be sent out after the elections (although a letter had already been sent to Senator Liu). The Assembly Speaker has the resumes for the vacant Assembly appointee slot. No action has been taken to date.
3. Capitol View Protection Plan – Mr. Sanchez reported that although the city started an initiative of sorts, the issue is currently on the back burner due to budget concerns. Mr. Cowan added that there are funding sources, but they are earmarked for improving transportation. There is general agreement in promoting activities along Capitol Mall.

E. Capitol Art Program

Ms. Lefalle-Collins reported on the sale of movable murals at Golden State Mutual Life Insurance Company in Los Angeles. They reflect the history of the Negro in California's exploration and colonization history, as well as settlement and development. The murals have been in place since 1949. The murals, along with a larger collection, are being auctioned off due to bankruptcy. There was general discussion about possible locations, condition of the murals, logistics of de-installing and reinstalling, etc.

F. Other

1. Painting study funding sources – Mr. Cowan spoke with DGS and confirmed that Carey & Company has an open-ended task-order contract, which could allow them to do the study or sub-consult it. Funding would need to be found.
2. Historic Capitol corner pillars – Mr. Cowan reported that Folsom plans on using their pillars in the redevelopment of Old Folsom. He will check with the other locations.
3. CRP materials at the State Archives – Ms. Benoit reported that lifting the restriction on some of the materials is still a work in project. Because the materials are owned by the Legislature, they have to make the decision to change ownership.

G. 35 year anniversary

Mr. Cowan suggested a January cocktail party.

V. New Business

A. Future Presentations

- a. Parks Foundation – October meeting
- b. Museum Consortium – January meeting

B. Miscellaneous

Mr. Sanchez suggested the Commission attend one of the public budget hearings. Ms. Benoit will research. Mr. Feliz reported that the Assembly Chamber cove lighting has also been upgraded, re-lamped from T-12 to T-8. Mr. Visnich inquired about Senator Kehoe's willingness to introduce legislation to widen the Commission's jurisdiction. Bill language still needs to be written.

Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 14, 2010 at 9:30.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:29 am.