

Minutes  
Historic State Capitol Commission  
Commission Meeting  
July 20, 2007

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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 Friday, July 20, 2007, at approximately 10:00 am PST.

Presiding: Julie Cerra, Acting Chair

Commissioners Present

Julie Cerra  
Richard Cowan  
Wayne Donaldson  
Susan Hildreth  
Melodi Anderson (for Nancy Zimmelman)

Commissioners Absent

Eric Nelson  
Luis Sanchez

Visitors

Marilyn Nelson, Department of General Services  
Maria Flores, Department of General Services  
Julie Willson, Department of General Services  
Anne Cavanagh, Department of General Services  
Dan Visnich, California Capitol Historic Preservation Society  
John Feliz, Assembly Rules Committee

Koren Benoit, Executive Director/Curator and recording secretary

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

Ms. Cerra called the meeting to order at 10:05 am. The recording secretary read the roll. Visitors were asked to introduce themselves.

**II. Approval of Minutes**

Motion: Mr. Cowan  
2<sup>nd</sup>: Mr. Donaldson  
Approved: Yes  
Action: To approve the April 2007 meeting minutes with a slight clarification relative to Ray Girvigian's oral history.

### III. Old Business

#### A. Subcommittee Reports

##### 1. Capitol Repository

Ms. Benoit reported that several of the tagged salvage items had deteriorated. Large granite pieces are still available, including the burned granite window arch. Commission staff will need to reselect those pieces to be saved; storage space will be determined by the Archives. Ms. Benoit will obtain a list of Breinas oral histories at the Archives.

##### 2. Maintenance Manual

Mr. Cowan reported that he plans on reformatting his workshop to something more 'bite size' rather than day-long. Ms. Benoit will send National Park Service links on maintenance/cyclical guidelines to all members. Ms. Flores reported that DGS is making changes in the custodial crews with better equipment, procedures and training.

##### 3. Annual Report

Motion: Mr. Donaldson

2<sup>nd</sup>: Mr. Cowan

Approved: Yes

Action: To approve the draft 2006 annual report with minor changes to the cover.

##### 4. Communications

Mr. Cowan reported on his meeting with Greg and Jon. He and Mr. Sanchez briefed them on Commission projects and got a better idea of prioritization; neither Greg or Jon were interested in 'greening' as part of the infrastructure study, but were interested in the view corridor issue. They also recommended continuing with the 2007 goals. Mr. Cowan reported that neither were supportive of the larger paint analysis, but suggested utilizing the new non-profit being organized by Linda Ackerman or CCHPS.

##### 5. Capitol View Protection Plan

Ms. Cavanagh agreed to look for the early 90s' urban design plan. A memo from Chairman Emeritus Girvigian was distributed in which he urged the Commission to take a stand on the Twin Towers project and its potential environmental impact on the preservation of the Capitol's view shed. There was much discussion on "view vs. *buildability*". While current requirements are being met, the problem is in limiting heights (due to lack of available land). Mr. Donaldson suggested further discussions with Mayor Fargo and the city. Mr. Cowan agreed to meet with Mayor Fargo and suggested inviting CCHPS Chairman Burnett Miller.

#### B. Governors' Portrait Signage

No action to date.

## **C. Department of General Services**

### 1. Memorials

AB 2525 (Emmerson), on the proposed Search and Rescue memorial for Capitol Park, will be heard by Senate Rules next week.

### 2. Security Update

Ms. Nelson reported that the project is complete.

### 3. Master Plan

Ms. Nelson reported that the plan is still on hold until additional funding is allocated. If funding is approved, they will go forward in the fall.

### 4. Infrastructure Study

Ms. Nelson reported that DGS has established a priority list. A few projects were begun in 2006-07 and will continue in 2007-08. Each year will allow funding for part or all of the priority list items. The Master Plan will examine improved irrigation methods that will make the park sustainable. DGS plans on folding LEED into all projects, including the use of organic products in the park, limiting pesticides, working with UCD landscape program for training, and consulting experts in the organic field to learn about available products.

### 5. Roofing Project

Ms. Nelson indicated that DGS is using greening aspects in the roof project as well. She distributed a map of the roof, indicating the different locations and phasing for the repairs. Work will begin in the South light well (#1), then move to the Historic West Wing (#2-#4), then the mechanical units (#5), the Annex (#6-#7) and finish in the Northeast corner [over the Lt. Governor's office ](#8). The skylight units and exhaust fans will be replaced as part of this project. The window washing system will be upgraded, light bulbs will be replaced, and the funnel area (where #3 and #4 meet #5) will be filled.

Mr. Donaldson informed members that he has been asked on sit on the US Green Building Council, made up of all SHPO's nation-wide. He is working on a 'greening' presentation program for 'green' historic buildings with the National Trust and the U.S. Green Building Council. SHPO has a 'green' page on their website. All Federal buildings must be LEED Silver by 2020.

### 6. Miscellaneous

Ms. Flores informed members of the upcoming monumental staircase project, and the possible installation of mechanized West façade window films to minimize sun damage. Mr. Donaldson offered to provide information on new UV film. DGS plans on replacing the waterline at 12<sup>th</sup> Street.

#### **D. California Capitol Historic Preservation Society**

Mr. Visnich provided comments on the Capitol View Protection Plan (full copy of comments attached with minutes).

Motion: Mr. Donaldson

2<sup>nd</sup>: Mr. Cowan

Approved: Yes

Action: For Mr. Donaldson and Mr. Cowan to reexamine the view protection plan issue and consider the non-profit's comments and then make a recommendation to the Commission.

#### **IV. New Business**

##### **A. Elections**

It was agreed that elections would be held at the October 19<sup>th</sup> meeting.

##### **B. Walter Gray Memorial**

Ms. Benoit provided information on Walter's memorial. Those who choose to can send checks to Ms. Benoit to be forwarded to the memorial fund.

##### **C. Miscellaneous**

Members reviewed the last 'to do' list. Members also discussed the proliferation of memorials in Capitol Park.

Motion: Mr. Donaldson

2<sup>nd</sup>: Mr. Cowan

Approved: Yes

Action: To form a committee to examine future development of memorials in Capitol Park.

##### **V. Adjournment**

Motion: Ms. Hildreth

2<sup>nd</sup>: Mr. Cowan

Approved: Yes

Action: To adjourn the meeting in memory of Walter Gray.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:08pm.