

Minutes
Historic State Capitol Commission
Commission Meeting
October 21, 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 2040, Sacramento, California on Thursday, October 21, 2010, at approximately 9:36 am PST.

Presiding: Dick Cowan, Chair

Commissioners Present

Nancy Lenoil

Jay Correia (for Wayne Donaldson)

Visitors

Marilyn Nelson, Department of General Services

Viletta Campbell, Department of General Services

Nancy Freitas, Department of General Services

John Manning, Department of General Services

Les Strike, Department of General Services

Richard Wyatt, CA Department of Veterans Affairs

John Ochoa, CA Mexican-American Veterans Memorial Committee

Robert Ruiz, CA Mexican-American Veterans Memorial Committee

Dennis Bylo

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 9:36 am. The recording secretary read the roll.

Mr. Cowan asked visitors to introduce themselves.

II. Approval of Minutes

Motion: Ms. Lenoil

2nd: Mr. Correia

Approved: Yes

Action: Approve July meeting minutes with corrections to the spelling of Jay Correia's name.

III. Special Presentations

A. Department of General Services

1. Security Cameras - Viletta Campbell and John Manning informed Commission members that four additional security cameras are to be installed in Capitol Park (at 10th and L and at 13th and Capitol). They will enhance the existing security cameras and will be placed symmetrical with the other posts to minimize the impact on the park grounds. The black, 16' poles will monitor bollard movement for emergency vehicles (there is no clear view at this time).

2. Groundwater Testing - Les Strike informed Commission members of groundwater testing of active underground tanks in front of the Unruh Building. As part of winter clean-up and preparation for storm season, the tanks will be removed; there will be minimal impact to the landscape. Les will check with the city on trimming the trees at 11th Street and will check with their arborist on raising the tree canopy.

B. California Mexican-American Veterans Memorial

Committee Chair Robert Ruiz provided a copy of his prepared remarks in which he thanked the Commission for allowing him to speak. He stated that next month the Committee would be selecting a final design and that sufficient funding had been acquired to underwrite the cost of the architectural and engineering services and to begin an EIR. Richard Wyatt of the CA Department of Veterans Affairs then presented the three design concepts. Each concept honors three groups: Latino Veterans, Society of War Mothers, and Congressional Medal of Honor recipients. All three designs allow for additional names. The overall square footage is 2,500 (similar to the Police Officer's Memorial). The Committee will convene a special meeting to choose the final design. The Committee is coordinating with the Treasurer's Office as they are working on security measures that may benefit the memorial.

IV. Old Business

A. Department of General Services

All DGS issues rolled over to the January meeting.

B. California State Parks

Rolled over to the January meeting.

C. Goals/Subcommittee Reports

1. Maintenance Plan – nothing to report.

2. Communication

a. Members discussed the ineffectiveness of Commission liaisons. There were suggestions to send a memo to all members, produce two reports each calendar year rather than one, and/or add something to the new member orientation packets.

b. Ms. Benoit informed members that the Speaker would review the Assembly appointee vacancy after the election.

c. Mr. Cowan reviewed his meeting (and Mr. Sanchez) with Greg Schmidt and Jon Waldie:

1. Check with Greg and Jon in March 2011 concerning specific language when funds can be reauthorized for the Master Plan.

2. Move forward with releasing CRP materials at State Archives

3. Move forward with Mr. Cowan's application on the Capitol Area Committee.

4. Greg would like to review draft language on 9149.

Mr. Correia provided draft language for amending 9149

to include the East Annex and Capitol Park. The Infrastructure Study includes a section on the East Annex and identifies the historic elements.

3. Capitol View Protection Plan – Mr. Cowan and Mr. Sanchez have been attending the Capitol Mall improvement meetings. Mr. Cowan will speak with Jerry Woolledge concerning the vacancy on the Capitol Area Committee.

4. Park Memorials – Mr. Correia provided draft language (on behalf of Wayne Donaldson) that would introduce legislation requiring the Commission be informed of any introduced legislation that could result in a memorial being constructed in Capitol Park and be allowed the opportunity to participate in the legislative hearing process. Ms. Benoit will check with Bill Assignments on the legislative process. Ms. Benoit provided a copy of the veto message for AB2670 (State Capitol Sustainability Task Force).

D. Capitol Art Program – nothing to report.

E. Other

1. Painting study funding sources – nothing to report.

2. Historic Capitol corner pillars – nothing to report.

3. CRP materials at the State Archives – Ms. Benoit will draft a letter to Greg and Jon outlining in finite terms what materials should remain restricted and what can be made available to the public. Ms. Lenoil will provide the language.

F. 35 year anniversary

Mr. Cowan suggested a February or March cocktail party.

V. New Business

A. Future Presentations

a. Parks Foundation – January 2011 meeting

b. Museum Consortium – April 2011 meeting

B. O Street Art Walk

Dennis Bylo addressed the Commission on his plan to create an “art walk”, starting at 16th and O and continuing down to the river. According to Mr. Bylo, the Crocker is interested in 7th St. down to the river. The pro Tem is supportive and wants to discuss the issue further in January 2011. Mr. Bylo also informed members of his recommendation to return O Street to 2-way traffic (7th to 13th Street). Mr. Bylo intends to enter the Capitol Mall design competition. His Governor’s Mansion project has been resurrected.

C. Miscellaneous

Ms. Benoit will check with the Assembly on a possible re-signing project taking place in the East Annex.

Mr. Cowan will send a letter to Greg requesting he be reappointed.

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

VI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:36 am.