

Minutes
Historic State Capitol Commission
Commission Meeting
January 12, 2012

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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, January 12, 2012 at approximately 9:32 am PST.

Presiding: Dick Cowan, Chair

Commissioners Present

Stacey Aldrich
Jay Correia (for Wayne Donaldson)
Nancy Lenoil
Luis Sanchez
Janie Schwartz

Commissioners Absent

Visitors

Dan Visnich, California Capitol Historic Preservation Society
Luis Lopez, Department of Veteran Affairs
Pedro Hernandez, CA Mexican-American Veterans Memorial
Robert Ruiz, CA Mexican-American Veterans Memorial
John Ochoa, CA Mexican-American Veterans Memorial
Donna Durham, Department of General Services
Christie Ann Toosey, Department of General Services
Marilyn Nelson, Department of General Services
Susan Short, Department of General Services, Jesse Unruh Bldg. Space Planner
Charlie Howell, Security Consultant
Chris Sneed, Facilities Manager, State Treasurer's Office
Julia Rosenberg, California Federation of Women's Clubs
Bill Crouch, City of Sacramento, Development Services Department
Debbie Hollingsworth, State Capitol Museum
Ty Smith, State Capitol Museum
Bob Ruffner, Senate 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 9:32 am. The recording secretary read the roll. All visitors were asked to introduce themselves.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: Ms. Schwartz
2nd: Ms. Aldrich
Approved: Yes
Action: To approve the October 2011 meeting minutes.

III. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

A. Mexican-American Veterans Memorial

Chairman Robert Ruiz read from prepared remarks. The committee hopes to attain the fundraising halfway mark by April, with a groundbreaking ceremony by November. The Department of General Services is working with the committee on a maintenance agreement. The committee is also working with the Department of Veterans Affairs on a combined maintenance agreement that would incorporate the All Veterans Memorial and the Vietnam Memorial, as there are no funds allocated in the department for major repairs. The committee's next meeting is scheduled for February 9.

B. State Treasurer's office

Christopher Sneed provided an update on security upgrades at the Treasurer's Building. Final plans should be completed by mid-February, which will then be submitted to the State Architect and the State Fire Marshall for review. The contract should be awarded by mid-June, with the project to begin mid-July. The project is expected to be completed by September. The total building security upgrade will cost \$400,000 - \$500,000 and will include the following: new and existing card readers, and installation of internal and external cameras. These 'dome' cameras can synch with the CHP security system at the State Capitol. The camera housings can be painted to match the building's terracotta. The upgrade also includes a proposed security booth for the receptionist. The State Treasurer's Office is coordinating the installation of a new sidewalk and additional lighting with the CA Mexican-American Veterans Memorial committee.

C. Capitol Mall Competition

Bill Crouch, with the City of Sacramento, updated members with a slide show on the Capitol Mall competition and the design winners. The project began 3-4 years ago as a means to find ways to beautify Capitol Mall, as well as increase usage. The competition received more than 40 submissions world-wide. AIA set the parameters for the competition, including "build-ability" and designs that could be phased and staged over time. Although 1st, 2nd and 3rd place prizes were awarded, the idea behind the competition was to create a melting pot of ideas that the city could draw from and carry the dialogue to the next step. Commission members were asked to review the submissions and provide comments for further discussion at the April meeting. The city's next step will be to create a steering committee; the Commission asked that they be represented. The submissions are available on their website www.saccatalyst.com.

D. California Federation of Women's Clubs

Julia Rosenberg, a state officer with the California Federation of Women's Clubs (as well as its chair of Legislative and Public Policy), provided members with their proposal to fund a \$15,000 project to label all 1,100 trees in Capitol Park. The labels would state the common and botanical names for each tree, and are designed to allow expansion of the tree without having to replace the label. The project would also include replacing existing labels, which are very few. A separate account will be set up for donations. Ms. Nelson recommended that the club's sponsor for this project, Assemblywoman Betsy Butler, send a letter of intent to the Department of General Services. Upon completion, the Legislature's Capitol park tree brochure can be updated. The Commission will follow up with Ms. Rosenberg on possibly funding the Capitol historic paint analysis.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. Department of General Services

1. Project Management Branch

Ms. Durham provided an Infrastructure update:

- a. Electrical: DGS is in the process of updating the first 20 electrical closets in the East Annex; expect to switch over to the new system in the next month or so; only the panels have been replaced; new wiring will be completed later, as it is more invasive; there is a project in place to start replacing the diesel generators in both the Capitol and the East Annex.
- b. Mechanical: Fan Room 4 had a significant coil leak, so DGS used it as an opportunity to create a prototype for the new fan rooms; it is up and running; others to be done in the future.
- c. Water intrusion: There are leaks in the south light well; the job has gone to bid; they anticipate letting out the contract soon; it is only a band-aid project of replacing the sealant around the window frames; the frames will have to be replaced in the future.
- d. East Doors: The doors have been replaced; the anodized match is good to the existing frames; existing hardware and lock sets were reused.
- e. Leak Repairs: DGS is doing some leak repairs on the Governor's terrace (right over x-ray machine in basement).

DGS is working on a new project called COBCP, which is talk for putting together the initial scope for a large project of renovations to the East Annex. The COBCP scoping document has been funded. In fy2012/13, DGS expects to start work on the emergency power grid panels.

Ms. Nelson added that there was nothing to report on memorials.

Mr. Cowan reminded Ms. Nelson about a previous request for a schedule and cash flow for the proposed Master Plan.

Mr. Cowan repeated an update provided at the Capitol Area Committee by Pella McCormick on the Library and Courts building. The roofing is complete; most of the snaking of fire, sprinkler, power and communication and alarm wires into concealed spaces is almost complete. DGS will soon start on the restoration of the plaster and stone surfaces.

2. Building and Property Management

Nothing to report.

B. California State Parks/State Capitol Museum

Ty Smith reported that the museum is gearing up for a busy school schedule. There are two successful exhibits currently on display. Future exhibits include WPA art and a long-term exhibit for spring 2013 dealing with the Dust Bowl; then a major exhibit on the Panama Pacific International Exposition of 1915. Mr. Smith asked about the cleaning of the Columbus and Isabella statue. Ms. Benoit reported that a proposal was being put together to dust the statue.

Mr. Smith also assisted in walking members through the State Capitol Museum DVD tour that includes a large section on the art and furnishings of the Historic State Capitol. The website is www.capitolmuseum.ca.gov

C. Senate and Assembly Facilities

Ms. Benoit indicated there was nothing to report on behalf of Assembly Facilities.

Bob Ruffner, Deputy Secretary of Operations/Facilities introduced himself. He conducts a weekly walkthrough with DGS on basic maintenance and cleaning issues. Mr. Ruffner informed members that the cupola has been cleaned and painted and the recommendation to halt visits has been submitted to Rules.

An update on the proposed west wing security camera installment was rolled over to the April meeting.

D. Goals/Subcommittee Reports

1. Maintenance Plan - Nothing to report.

2. Communication – Nothing to report.

3. Capitol View Protection Plan – Nothing to report.

4. Park Memorials – Mr. Cowan reported on his discussions with J.P. Tremblay at CDVA concerning the need for a Veterans Memorial master plan that would ensure future memorial additions are harmonious and sympathetic (existing legislation requires any new veterans memorial approved pursuant to the master plan of the State Capitol Park as adopted by the Joint Committee on Rules shall be constructed within the existing boundary of the Capitol Veterans Memorial). Mr. Tremblay will be working with DGS.

In response to Assemblyman Garrick's proposed legislation for a statue of Ronald Reagan in the rotunda, Ms. Benoit reported on her research on the concept of statuary in the building. There is mention of statuary in the capitol art program's early criteria but it appears to reference items used as decorative objects in the offices. A November 13, 1869 *Sacramento Daily Union* article references "four niches on the first floor intended to receive one-and-a-half time's life size statues of Washington, Lincoln, a California hunter and a miner" and on the upper floor "16 sub-pedestals on which could be placed life size statues." Ms. Benoit will contact Chair Emeritus Ray Girvigian for his thoughts; a policy may need to be drafted to deal with this request and future ones (it would also include review by the Commission). Members discussed the challenges of safely displaying statues in the Capitol. Mr. Cowan and Mr. Sanchez will discuss with Greg and Jon.

E. 9149 Amendment

Mr. Cowan reported on meeting with the Speaker's representative to review draft language. They have requested more specific language outlining the spaces in the East Annex that the Commission is interested in; Mr. Cowan and Ms. Benoit will work on the amendments. Members discussed the inclusion of other historic buildings, besides the Library and Courts and Treasurer's buildings; it was agreed to remove them from the draft language.

F. Capitol Art Program

Nothing to report.

G. Other

1. Painting study funding sources – No response from State Parks Foundation on 8/25/11 letter.
2. Historic Capitol corner pillars – Nothing to report.
3. CRP materials at the State Archives – Ms. Benoit reported that the issue is under review by Legislative Counsel. They want a better understanding of the materials and how transferring ownership may affect LORA (Legislative Open Records Act) requests. Ms. Benoit will follow-up with Legislative Counsel.
4. Memorial District – Mr. Cowan reported that Councilmember Cohn is interested in the idea and is scheduled to meet with him next week. Mr. Sanchez is trying to schedule an appointment with Senator Steinberg.
5. Reception – members decided to tie the reception to Preservation Month in May and introduction of the new legislation.

V. NEW BUSINESS

1. Assembly appointee – Ms. LeFalle-Collins will be sending in her resignation letter. Ms. Benoit will resubmit resumes that were provided last year to the Assembly for consideration.

2. Future presentations - Capitol Area Plan and Library and Courts restoration

3. Goals for 2012

Motion: Ms. Aldrich

2nd: Ms. Schwartz

Approved: Yes

Action: to remove the 3rd goal and retain others for 2012 goals

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 12:01pm.