

Minutes
Historic State Capitol Commission
Quarterly Meeting
January 23, 2014

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, January 23, 2014 at 9:01 am PST.

Presiding: Dick Cowan, Chair

Commissioners Present

Cathy Garrett
Nancy Lenoil
Gerry Maginnity (Debbie Newton attending)
Carol Roland-Nawi
Luis Sanchez

Commissioners Absent

Janie Schwartz

Visitors

John Feliz, Assembly Facilities
Bob Ruffner, Senate Facilities
Pella McCormick, Department of General Services
Robin Libby, Department of General Services
Alex King, President, State Capitol Museum Volunteer Association
John Eleen, Assembly Chief Clerk's office
Matt Bellah, State Parks
John Allen, State Parks
Koren Benoit, Executive Director and recording secretary

I. CALL TO ORDER; ROLL CALL; INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS

Chairman Cowan called the meeting to order at 9:01 am. The recording secretary read the roll. All visitors were asked to introduce themselves.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: Ms. Lenoil
2nd: Ms. Roland-Nawi
Approved: Yes
Action: To approve the October 2013 meeting minutes with correction to the spelling of Mr. Maginnity's name.

III. OLD BUSINESS

A. Department of General Services (DGS)

Ms. McCormick informed members that their branch has been reconfigured as Project Management Development Branch. She reported on the following:

1. Project Management Development Branch

A. Capitol Park Master Plan – The master plan is in its same state; funds are still lacking to move forward.

B. Memorials

1. American-Portuguese Veterans Memorial - Assemblywoman Olsen is carrying new legislation that would waive the master plan requirement and would outline the design of the memorial.
2. Mexican-American Veterans Memorial – Ms. Benoit read from Christopher Sneed’s email, updating members on the status of the memorial. The committee has \$110,000 in the bank (they need \$800,000), they have changed some material from granite to concrete and they have set up 3 phases to complete the project. The committee is also working on large corporate donations.
3. Vietnam Veterans Memorial – Ms. Lenoil updated members on the collection of memorabilia left at the memorial.
4. Firefighters Memorial – Ms. Roland-Nawi reported on receiving a request for guidance from the CA Fire Foundation. They have determined that they will soon run out of room to place the names of those killed in the line of duty. She will forward the email to Ms. Benoit to forward to members for their information.

C. Infrastructure – Ms. McCormick reported on the status of the fan room replacement project.

D. Projects

1. Bike enclosure - Work is progressing. The job has gone out to bid; 5 bidders have responded. A contract is likely by the end of February. Work will start on the South side.
2. Cell phone antennas – The basement antennas are fully installed.
3. Library and Courts Building – Members reviewed the letter from Ms. Roland-Nawi in which she informed the Chair that due diligence was done on the part of DGS in the selection of exterior security cameras and that SHPO feels that the cameras are compatible with the overall character and setting of the building.
4. Ceiling repair – West Wing 2nd floor repair completed.
5. State Treasurer’s Office security upgrade project – Ms. Benoit read from Christopher Sneed’s email, reporting that the initial bid resulted in 2 non-compliant bids (DVBE issues), so the project has been re-advertised; bid date is 2/27.
5. East Annex – DGS is promoting the project but the cost, disruption and duration of it are significant, and approval has not yet been given.

2. Building and Property Management

- A. Tree Tags** - Ms. Libby reported that the California Association of Women’s Clubs has a new president, Chris Herzog, who will begin in May. This project is a priority for her. The club has raised \$5,694 to date.
- B. Governor’s Portraits** – Ms. Libby informed members of the planned conservation project for the governor’s portraits.
- C. Custodian Training Program** –DGS is planning a custodial training program that would touch on various facets of working in the State Capitol building.

B. California State Parks/State Capitol Museum

Mr. Bellah reported on several upcoming events: Museum Day on February 1, Camellia Day on February 26 and in mid-May, the Dust Bowl exhibit will be coming down. Mr. Allen reported on the upcoming Pan

Pacific International Exhibition exhibit which will open in June 2014. The exhibit will be multi-media and installed in all three rooms. The staff is working on a 5-year exhibit plan with the State Library and State Archives. Mr. Bellah explained the new exhibit brochures that will soon be made available through Joint Rules Committee.

C. Senate and Assembly Facilities

Mr. Ruffner and Mr. Feliz reported on the lighting project. LED lights have been installed in the West Wing corridor wall light fixtures (over 1,000 lamps); the vendor is LEDNovations. DGS discovered that the colors vary within the same delivery; they have returned some of the bulbs and the project is on hold until new bulbs arrive. Mr. King asked that the light levels be increased in the 1st floor rotunda for the volunteers staffing the information desk. Lights in the public corridor outside Room 113 are on a dimmer. Mr. Ruffner reported that the Senate has ordered new carpet for the chamber and gallery, to be installed in the fall of 2014 (gallery) and the fall of 2015 (chamber). Some concrete work may need to be done under the gallery public seating. Mr. Feliz reported on the East Annex corridor embellishment project. There is a rug on display in the 4th floor lobby, a gift from the President of Armenia. Mr. Feliz is also working on a photo exhibit for the 3rd floor Assembly member's lounge and corridor.

D. Goals

1. Capitol Park Master Plan – Ms. Roland-Nawi and Ms. Garrett are looking for a contact person in the Governor's office. Ms. Garrett informed members of her December 2013 letter to the Governor, urging him to support the master plan.
2. Outreach and Visibility – Chairman Cowan asked that the quarterly meeting memo to legislative members focus on the Capitol Park Master Plan, then followed up with a report on his meeting with Assembly Member Cooley.
3. Capitol View Protection – Mr. Sanchez provided members a handout on various downtown properties considered by the Kings, and on central core design guidelines.
4. Statuary Policy – Ms. Benoit advised that she plans on meeting with Legislative Counsel for direction, discuss informally with Greg and Jon, then proceed with a 3rd draft. The Joint Rules Committee will ultimately be responsible for adopting the policy. She also updated members on the progress of the Ronald Reagan statue. Staff is working to determine an appropriate location and is talking with State Parks accessibility unit on ADA-related issues.
5. All Veterans Memorial – Chairman Cowan reported no progress on setting guidelines for expansion of the All Veterans Memorial, but perhaps Assemblymember Olsen's bill will help.

E. Capitol Art Program

1. Art Shows/Loans – Ms. Benoit gave an account on museum exhibits which will feature several loaned paintings from the Capitol Art Program.
2. Insurance Request – Ms. Benoit reported that Legislative Counsel was reviewing the Society's request of the Commission to recommend to the Joint Rules Committee that they assume the expense of reappraising the Society's loaned artwork.

F. Other

1. Historic Corner Pillars – After some discussion, it was agreed that Ms. Benoit would redraft the letter to the Folsom pillar owners, setting a meeting date, and have it sent ‘return receipt’. DGS is financially backing the project.
2. Memorial District – Members reviewed a handout from Mr. Sanchez detailing a timeline for creating a monument district in Sacramento. Chair Cowan and Mr. Sanchez plan to meet with Councilman Hansen and set up a group meeting before the April Commission meeting. Ms. Lenoil mentioned Richmond VA’s Monument Avenue and agreed to do some research. Mr. Sanchez will keep a running list of tasks, along with the timeline.
3. Cal Trans negatives – Debbie Newton reported on a collection of Cal Trans negatives of the Capitol.

V. NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Benoit asked if anyone had any information to answer a request for history on the gold medallions struck by the state.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:07am.