

Minutes
Historic State Capitol Commission
Quarterly Meeting
January 31, 2019

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 31, 2019 at 9:08 am PST.

Commissioners Present

Presiding: Dick Cowan, Chair
Roberta Deering
Nancy Lenoil
Greg Lucas
Paula Peper
Julianne Polanco

Visitors

Tamara Martin, California State Archives
Jason Partida, California State Parks, State Capitol Museum
Phil Sexton, California State Parks, State Capitol Museum
Bob Dreyer, California State Capitol Museum Volunteer Association
Geanie Hollingsworth, Assembly Rules Facilities
Michael Erke, Assembly Rules Committee
Jeff Tsuruoka, Department of General Services
Kathy Park, Department of General Services
Micky Chen, Department of General Services
Mike Nielsen, Department of General Services
Dan Visnich, California Capitol Historic Preservation Society

Koren Benoit, Executive Director and Recording Secretary

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

Chairman Cowan called the meeting to order at 9:08 am. Mr. Cowan commented on the passing of Burnett Miller, owner of Burnett and Sons Planning Mill, former Mayor of Sacramento and Chair of the California Capitol Historic Preservation Society.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: Ms. Deering
Second: Ms. Peper
Approved: Yes
Action: Approve the minutes of the July 12, 2018 meeting

III. OLD BUSINESS

A. East Annex Update

Members discussed the status of the East Annex project. Assembly member Ken Cooley will provide an update on the project at a special meeting scheduled for Wednesday, February 13, 2019. According to Mr. Cowan, there is a signed MOU. Ms. Deering reported that a reconnaissance survey, completed for the California Register, included the East Annex and identified it with Mid-Century Modern characteristics. Members agreed that Ms. Benoit would send an introductory letter to members of the Joint Committee on Rules (Ms. Benoit distributed a contact list of all Senate and Assembly members).

B. Senate and Assembly Facilities

There was nothing to report on behalf of Senate Facilities. Ms. Hollingsworth reported that the Assembly was coordinating minor office moves. They are looking to replace the worn and damaged tiebacks on the silk drapes in Assembly offices. The basement restaurant remodels are complete but they are still working on ADA upgrades to the bathrooms and water fountains. There is new ADA signage as well. Extra tables and seating have been added to the dining room. The pneumatic HVAC valves controlling Chamber temperature have been replaced, and the Legislative Office Building rooftop HVAC systems are being replaced.

C. Department of General Services

1. Project Management Development Branch

a. Memorial Update

Ms. Benoit distributed a handout with an update on new legislation:

AB 2116 (Melendez)	Bill of Rights Monument; DIED
AB 2667 (Cooley)	State Capitol Building Annex: historic symbols; CHAPTERED
SB 1452 (Wilk)	War on Terror Memorial committee; DIED
SB 463 (Lara)	LGBT Civil Rights Monument; DIED
AB 2036 (Gipson)	Mervyn Dymally bust; CHAPTERED

Mr. Tsuruoka indicated that he plans on following up with the new Lieutenant Governor concerning placement of the Dymally bust.

b. Pending Projects

Mr. Tsuruoka introduced Mickey Chen, a new project manager.

Mr. Tsuruoka reported that DGS plans to go out to bid this year for the Central Plant recycled water project. Ms. Park reported that the turf reduction project is complete, and they have been able to find further uses for the remaining permeable pavers. Rose Garden repairs have been completed, including the removal of grass, capping of sprinklers, and the addition of decomposed granite (the granite may be removed later and replaced with permeable pavers). Ms. Benoit shared notes from

her meeting with Ms. Chen and Melisa Gaudreau with Page & Turnbull. They met to discuss the West Wing balcony and portico water damage project. Page & Turnbull, along with SGH (Simpson, Gumpertz & Heger), a waterproofing/structural consultant, are working on a study and conceptual drawings and hope to present a recommended solution to Joint Rules by the end of February. They will have more to report at the Commission's April meeting. Scaling, efflorescence, rust stains and repointing issues will be addressed in the study. Ms. Deering asked if the Commission could review the recommendation before it goes to Joint Rules, and Ms. Chen agreed to work with Ms. Benoit.

c. Future Projects

Ms. Benoit asked for an update on the design/build project for the Jesse Unruh Building. The project will be similar in scope to that completed on the Library and Courts Building. A completion date of 2023 is expected. Mr. Tsuruoka agreed to look into it and report back.

2. Facilities Management Branch

Nothing to report.

3. Capitol Park

Mike Nielsen reported that he is the new Capitol Park superintendent, following the retirement of Les Strike last year. He provided an update on the tree management project, indicating that DGS has acquired seedlings and other varieties that are now at UC Davis Arboretum, where they will remain until they are large enough to plant. A late February arborist walkthrough is scheduled, with a follow-up walkthrough to discuss the findings. Ms. Peper reported that of the 35 trees that are gone or need replacing, they have located 30, of which 17 are at the Arboretum. Members recommended posting all this information on the Commission's website. Ms. Peper agreed to obtain some photos from the Arboretum. With nicer weather approaching, Park staff is gearing up for more outdoor activities/events in the park.

D. California Capitol Historic Preservation Society (CCHPS)

Dan Visnich reported that the late Burnett Miller wanted the Society to keep going in order to provide insight on the East Annex project and Capitol Park. The Society has added former State Historic Preservation Officer Wayne Donaldson to the CCHPS board. Mr. Visnich asked whether there should be a Crocker presence at the Commission's meetings in light of the fact that the Society's assets (furniture and art) were transferred to the Crocker Art Museum.

E. California State Parks/State Capitol Museum

Jason Partida provided an update on the incoming exhibit, "Building a Legacy: 150 years of the California State Capitol Building." Fifteen of the 17 interpretive panels are up, and the first group of artifacts have been picked up from State Archives. They have a "soft opening" date of March 15, 2019. Mr. Sexton reported that they have a new district superintendent, John Fraser, who is a historian with Cultural Resources. He stated that the December 2018 holiday music program was a success. State Parks has loaned newly elected Governor Gavin Newsom furniture from their collection, including an Earl Warren desk set and Reagan-era conference table chairs.

Ms. Lenoil mentioned that the State Archives has an exhibit on display of Alfred Eichler, State Architect (1925-1964), which is also online (with over 400 images). Ms. Deering proposed the idea of an exhibit on State Architects at the State Capitol Museum. Ms. Lenoil added that the exhibit would be replaced in the spring with one honoring the 150th anniversary of the Transcontinental Railroad "driving of the last spike" in 1869.

F. California State Capitol Museum Volunteer Association

Bob Dreyer reported that the Association elected new officers at their annual meeting. The hard drive in the theatre has been replaced; it is now up and running with a "smart" podium. The new training class will be ready to provide tours in late spring/summer. Ms. Benoit asked whether the Association would be selling posters related to the new exhibit as has been done in the past. Mr. Dreyer stated he would address that at their next meeting.

IV. 2019 GOALS

Members discussed and agreed upon the following goals and membership for 2019:

Goal Area: Adoption by the Joint Rules Committee of a Tree Management Plan for Capitol Park

2019 Goal: Continue to Develop and Execute a Capitol Park Tree removal and replacement plan for day-to-day tree management for DGS.

Membership: Ms. Peper

Goal Area: Adoption by the Joint Rules Committee of a Master Plan for Capitol Park

2019 Goal: Ensure inclusion of a Capitol Park Master Plan within the scope of the East Project.

Membership: Mr. Cowan

Goal Area: Assist and Advise on the East Annex Project

2019 Goal: Members opted to hold off on this goal until after the February 13, 2019 meeting with Assembly member Cooley.

Membership: Ms. Deering

Goal Area: Creation of a Monument District near the Capitol

2019 Goal: Develop in 2019 the structure of the District and format of an MOU among agencies that would support such a District.

Membership: Ms. Deering, Mr. Lucas

V. CURATOR'S REPORT

Ms. Benoit provided an update on the Commission's website. Mr. Tsuruoka agreed to obtain permission to add Lyn Hooper's Insectary report (completed as part of her Historic American Buildings Survey at Savannah College of Art and Design) to the Capitol Park section. Members requested that the passing of both Burnett Miller and former State Architect Fred Hummel be noted on the website. Ms. Benoit will work with Ms. Peper on a tree management plan section.

A new exhibit is on display in the Maddy Lounge and Cox Clubhouse, featuring images from the State Library's extensive online catalogue that focus on statewide fairs, festivals, celebrations, etc. It will remain up through the duration of the Legislative Session.

VI. MISCELLANEOUS

Ms. Lenoil provided an update on the historic flag collection. She is working on setting up a meeting with Colonel Kirk Strum, Director, Military Museum Enterprise. She has forwarded him the conservator's report.

Ms. Benoit reported on leadership changes in the Senate:

Secretary of the Senate – Erika Contreras

Senate Majority Leader – Bob Hertzberg

Senate Minority Leader – Shannon Grove (after 3/1)

Members discussed the proposed CalPERS building on Capitol Mall (between 3rd and 4th). Ms. Benoit provided the website and development tracker file number so members could follow the project. The property is located within the C-3 zone and is located outside of the height limit areas for the Capitol, so there are no height limitations. There are, however, stepback requirements. The planned building would be 550 feet tall, 120 feet taller than Sacramento's tallest, the Wells Fargo building.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Benoit will email the draft 2018 annual report to members. Members recommended that the obituaries for both Burnett Miller and Fred Hummel be included. Ms. Benoit reported on the State Parks 2017 Director's Newton B. Drury Award that was presented to Jay Correia's Historical Resource Registration Team. The award recognized honesty, integrity and idealism in the face of adverse pressure. Members agreed to the following 2019 meeting dates: April 11, July 11 and October 10.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:34am.