

Minutes  
Historic State Capitol Commission  
Special Meeting  
February 20, 2019

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Commissioners of the Historic State Capitol Commission, held pursuant to due notice, at the California State Capitol, Room 3191, Sacramento, California on Wednesday, February 20, 2019 at 2:03 pm PST.

Commissioners Present

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

Commissioners Absent

Greg Lucas

Visitors

Terry Cook, California State Parks, State Capitol Museum  
Aimee Haynes, California State Parks, State Capitol Museum  
Phil Sexton, California State Parks, Capitol District  
Bob Dreyer, California State Capitol Museum Volunteer Association  
Jeff Tsuruoka, Department of General Services  
Mickey Chen, Department of General Services  
John Manning, Department of General Services  
Gary Lewis, Department of General Services  
Geanie Hollingsworth, Assembly Facilities  
Bob Ruffner, Senate Rules  
Dan Visnich, CCHPS  
Emily Berry, Office of Assemblyman Cooley  
Gianna Miller, Capitol Morning Report  
Tim Mercheson, MOCA  
Matt King, MOCA  
AIA representative  
Two unknowns

Koren Benoit, Executive Director and Recording Secretary

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

Chairman Cowan called the meeting to order at 2:03 pm.

**II. SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

Assemblyman Ken Cooley, Chairman of the Joint Committee on Rules, provided an update on the East Annex project. He distributed a packet of material to all members, which included:

- 2018 Annex Project in Review
- Capitol Annex Project website
- Capitol Annex Project update, 2019
- Senate and Assembly Standing Committee Office Locations
- California Public Works Board: Request for Recognition
- California Public Works Board; Project Definition Report
- Consultation and Collaboration in AB 1826
- DGS 10<sup>th</sup>/O Street Building Project Overview
- AB 2667 (Cooley) State Capitol Building Annex: Historic Symbols Bill and Fact Sheet
- AB 1826 Capitol Annex Project Key Authorities
- Proposed Annex Project Timeline

### **III. Q & A with Mr. Cooley**

Following Mr. Cooley's presentation, members asked a variety of questions. Ms. Deering inquired about the rehabilitation option, as listed in AB 1826 ("...pursue the construction of a state capitol building annex or the restoration, rehabilitation, renovation, or reconstruction of the existing State Capitol Building Annex"). Ms. Peper indicated that she hopes the final decision will include a tree management plan. Mr. Cooley stated that he wants to "invigorate the park."

Ms. Polanco explained that the style of the current Annex reflects an important time in history and it should be utilized in the telling of the story of California's "People's House."

Ms. Benoit circulated copies of a letter from Gretchen Steinberg, President of Sacramento Modern (SacMod), a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving modern art, architecture, and design in the Sacramento region. Ms. Steinberg asked that the letter be distributed at the meeting; in it, she requested assurances that:

1. The evaluation of all options would utilize the California Historical Building Code;
2. The rehabilitation option would utilize the Secretary of the Interior's Standards; and,
3. The significant cultural landscape and potentially significant archeological sites of Capitol Park be respected.

### **IV. Commission Discussion**

Following Mr. Cooley's presentation and departure, members continued their discussion. Ms. Polanco asked whether there would be five separate CEQA reports or just one (swing space, visitor center, West Wing modifications, Annex, parking)? She also reflected on the importance of the adaptive reuse/rehabilitation option. Chair Cowan reiterated the need of the Legislature to review all of the options, not just the construction option.

Members agreed to review the materials provided at the meeting and forward any comments to Ms. Benoit. She will forward these to East Annex subcommittee members, who will then draft a response to Mr. Cooley.

Ms. Benoit will also forward copies of the material to Greg Lucas, who could not attend the meeting.

#### **IV. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 3:43pm.