

Minutes  
Historic State Capitol Commission  
Quarterly Meeting  
April 11, 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, April 11, 2019 at 9:07 am PST.

Commissioners Present

Presiding: Dick Cowan, Chair  
Roberta Deering  
Tamara Martin  
Paula Peper  
Jay Correia (for Julianne Polanco)

Commissioners Absent

Greg Lucas

Visitors

Phil Sexton, California State Parks, State Capitol Museum  
Bob Dreyer, California State Capitol Museum Volunteer Association  
Geanie Hollingsworth, Assembly Rules Facilities  
Jeff Tsuruoka, Department of General Services  
Micky Chen, Department of General Services  
Mike Nielsen, Department of General Services  
Melisa Gaudreau, Page & Turnbull  
Michelle Messinger, Office of Historic Preservation  
Chris Sneed, State Treasurer's Office  
Moulay Billouche, State Treasurer's Office  
Matt King, MOCA  
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 9:07 am. The Recording Secretary took roll. Visitors were asked to introduce themselves.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion: Ms. Peper  
Second: Ms. Deering  
Approved: Yes  
Action: To approve the minutes of the January 31, 2019 meeting.

Motion: Ms. Deering  
Second: Ms. Peper  
Approved: Yes  
Action: To approve the minutes of the February 20, 2019 meeting.

### III. OLD BUSINESS

#### A. East Annex Project

The Department of General Services (DGS) is releasing CEQA and NOP (Notice of Preparation) documents. Assembly members Cooley and Ramos met informally with Native American tribal leaders prior to releasing the NOP. Ms. Hollingsworth indicated that there might be another public Joint Committee on Rules (JRC) meeting before summer recess. Ms. Deering distributed a handout outlining a draft motion pertaining to the identification of historic fabric.

Motion: Ms. Deering  
Second: Mr. Correia  
Approved: Yes  
Action: To officially adopt as historic fabric the portions of the East Annex identified in the 2006 DGS study conducted by the noted historic architectural firm, Page & Turnbull, and the key spaces and rooms not in the DGS study but identified by JRC in its October 2015 publication, "Public Art Tribute: California State Capitol Annex". \* Ms. Benoit will draft a letter to JRC Members.

#### B. Senate and Assembly Facilities

Minor carpet repairs and replacement in the Assembly Chamber will take place during Spring Recess. Exterior and interior window cleaning is scheduled for both the Capitol and Legislative Office Building. Work continues on ADA upgrades for the Capitol basement bathrooms.

#### C. Department of General Services (DGS)

DGS staff is working with the Lt. Governor's office on the placement of the Dymally bust.

DGS is in the process of getting approval for bids for the Central Plant project.

Architectural consultant Page & Turnbull has completed its investigative work on the water intrusion problem at the West Wing porticos. During their preliminary research, they pulled up 25 tiles in various locations and removed grout to get down to the waterproof membrane. The membrane, placed under the exterior marble tiles, trapped water, which leached

through the granite and marble. Water intrusion through failed sealant between granite and marble may be a factor as well. Staining is noticeable. Repair work is scheduled to begin this summer. SGH (Simpson, Gumpertz & Heger) is the waterproofing and structural engineer experts. State Archives is researching if any of the black and white marble tiles at the West portico are original.

The Senate and Assembly are pursuing options for accommodating egress, or both egress and ingress, from the West entrance. The West entrance is now open for egress only; a CHP officer is on site during normal business hours.

Motion: Ms. Deering

Second: Mr. Correia

Approved: Yes

Action: To recommend to JRC that, should they pursue this project, the Commission be consulted on any options that would impact the interior historic fabric and/or the historic appearance of the West façade. Ms. Benoit will draft a letter to JRC Members.

#### D. Capitol Park

The new arborist report was submitted and potential hazards identified and addressed. A large American Elm at 13<sup>th</sup> and L will be removed. A sequoia at N (between 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>) will be topped, a 50% reduction in height; if unsuccessful in saving the tree, a replacement is ready from the Sequoia National Park.

Work continues with UC Davis Arboretum Nursery on cloning/propagating cuttings from historic, rare trees. DGS is producing a video with UC Davis that will highlight the tree management plan. The video will be released on both the DGS and Commission websites. Assembly member Cooley has tasked UC Davis Arboretum staff with locating replacements for Civil War Grove trees (only 6 left of the original 37); they will be contacting state and national parks at the battlefields. New succulents will be planted in the cactus garden. Staff is reintroducing plants in the south planter; if successful, they will carry over to other planters. State Archives will look into transcribing tapes of interviews with past park superintendents.

#### **IV. California State Capitol Museum Volunteer Association**

Bob Dreyer reported that the Association would conduct a living history event, several vignettes that will focus on the April 1906 earthquake. The new volunteer class will start providing tours in May. The Association is preparing for a busy summer of visitors.

## V. California Capitol Historic Preservation Society

Society Executive Secretary Daniel Visnich read from prepared remarks, in which the Society offered guideline recommendations for the development of the East Annex project and five site-specific suggestions:

The new addition must architecturally harmonize with the Historic State Capitol;

The Historic West Wing must not be overshadowed by the new Annex;

The new structure should not appear to dominate the West Wing;

The New East Annex should be detached from the West Wing, which would allow the Historic West Wing to stand free and also permit the restoration of the original East Façade and provide the opportunity to reconstruct the original East Apse; and,

In a detached new East Annex design, connecting corridors from the West Wing could be provided underground to permit the least impact on the West Wing.

## VI. 2019 Goals

**GOAL AREA:** Adoption by the Joint Committee on Rules 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:** Commissioners Peper and Martin

**GOAL AREA:** Adoption by the Joint Committee on Rules of a Master Plan for Capitol Park. **2019 Goal:** Ensure inclusion of a Capitol Park Master Plan within the scope of the East Annex Project. **Membership:** Commissioners Cowan and Martin.

**GOAL AREA:** Assist and advise on the East Annex Project. **2019 Goal:** Attend, offer testimony, and respond in writing to East Annex hearings, meet East Annex stakeholders, and respond in writing to published East Annex documents. **Membership:** Commissioners Deering and Martin.

**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:** Commissioners Deering, Lucas and Martin.

Ms. Deering and Mr. Lucas will coordinate a meeting a CADA. Ms. Deering will follow up with CADA board members to see what their role might be with this project.

Motion: Ms. Peper  
Second: Ms. Deering  
Approved: Yes  
Action: To add Ms. Martin to all four goal areas. As Acting State Archivist, Ms. Martin will support all four goal areas, utilizing the resources of the State Archives to assist other Commission members.

The Commission is following the development of the planned design/build project for the Jesse Unruh Building.

Motion: Ms. Deering  
Second: Ms. Peper  
Approved: Yes  
Action: To recommend to DGS that historic preservation monitoring, similar to that done during the 2011-2013 Stanley Mosk Library and Courts Building renovation, be included in the project. Ms. Benoit will draft a letter to the DGS project manager.

Members will invite the DGS project manager to future Commission meetings.

## **VII. Curator's Report**

The Commission website has been updated to include a report on the California State Insectary. Lyn Hooper, DGS Supervising Architect, wrote the report as an assignment for Preservation 720, Savannah College of Art and Design. A new section, "In Memoriam" will be added to the website to honor those who worked on the Capitol Restoration Project and/or had a lasting impact on the State Capitol building.

## **VIII. Miscellaneous**

Ms. Benoit reported on the winners of the Waterfront Idea Makers competition, a City of Sacramento program to reimagine the Old Sacramento waterfront. The contest produced two winners via public vote. Professional design firm Perkins Eastman won the People's Choice award. Sacramento resident Craig Segall won the Open Competition award. City staff is evaluating all submissions and will make recommendations regarding project feasibility to the City Council in April. Ms. Deering will look into whether this might be an option for monuments.

## **IX. New Business**

Members commented on various options for the annual report cover. Ms. Benoit will seek versions with the East Annex.

State Archives is looking into whether materials pulled from an estate sale of architect Robert B. Mathews, who worked with Welton Becket and Associates on the Capitol Restoration Project, are public records.

Ms. Benoit will update Commission letterhead to reflect Ms. Martin, Acting State Archivist.

Ms. Benoit will forward the arborist report to Commission members.

**X. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:32.

\* Complete Historic Fabric Motion

- in accordance with Section 1949 of the Government Code concerning the Historic State Capitol Commission's role relative to the '*historic State Capitol*' ;
- which defines the '*historic State Capitol*' as, '*...including portions of the State Capitol Building Annex that contain historic fabric...*'; and,
- per Section 9149.1 (c) " '*Historic fabric*' means original or added building or construction materials, features, and finishes that are deemed by the commission as historically or architecturally significant";
- the Commission deems that none of the offices of individual Senate and Assembly members shall be considered historic fabric, given those offices' multiple remodelings over the years; and,
- the Commission requests that:
  - DGS contract with Page & Turnbull to update its' 2006 identification of the exterior and those publicly-accessible interior areas of the Annex determined to be historic — including Very Significant, Significant and Contributing historic spaces, and also Character-Defining Features — per the *Historic Structure Report* prepared by Page & Turnbull for DGS's 2006 *California State Capitol (01) Infrastructure Study*; and, also,
  - DGS contract with Page & Turnbull to evaluate the historic integrity of the following areas of the Annex interior that were not evaluated in the 2006 study, but which are shown in historic photos in the booklet *Public Art Tribute: California State Capitol Annex*, compiled in October 2015 by the Office of the Assembly Chief Clerk in Consultation with Assembly and Senate Committee on Rules:
    - The Governor's Office Public Reception Area;
    - Governor's Private Office;
    - The Governor's Conference Room;
    - The Governor's Cabinet Room;
    - Senate Members' Lounge;
    - Assembly Members' Lounge; and,
- until such time as the Commission is presented with the requested updates and evaluations, based on current National Register Standards, for the Commission's review and possible action, the following will be considered historic fabric of the Annex:
  - those areas and spaces determined as Very Significant, Significant and Contributing and Character-Defining Features, in the 2006 *Historic Structure Report* referenced above; and,
  - the spaces/areas noted above from the 2015 *Public Art Tribute* booklet.