

Minutes
Historic State Capitol Commission
Commission Meeting
April 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, April 12, 2012 at approximately 9:30 am PST.

Presiding: Dick Cowan, Chair

Commissioners Present

Debbie Newton (for Stacey Aldrich)
Wayne Donaldson
Nancy Lenoil
Luis Sanchez
Janie Schwartz

Commissioners Absent

Visitors

Marilyn Nelson, Department of General Services
Kathy Jacobsen, Department of General Services
Diane Elliot, Department of General Services
Robin Libby, Department of General Services
Liz Ames, Department of General Services
Megan Davis, Capitol Mall District
Casey Hayden, State Parks
Matt Theis, Assemblywoman Olsen
John Feliz, Assembly Rules Facilities
Les Spahn, Assemblyman Roger Dickinson
Mike Zimmerman, Assemblyman Martin Garrick
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 9:30 am. The recording secretary read the roll. All visitors were asked to introduce themselves.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: Ms. Schwartz
2nd: Ms. Lenoil
Approved: Yes
Action: To approve the January 2012 meeting minutes.

III. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

A. Library and Courts Renovation

Diane Elliot, with Department of General Services, provided members an update on the renovation project. The project is 65% complete with a finished date scheduled for December 2012. All historic light fixtures are being restored by a Grass Valley firm. DGS is monitoring temperature and humidity for protection of the artwork. Hardware is also being restored. It has been a challenge to find a hide large enough for the library leather door restoration; looking at buffalo. DGS advises approximately six months to move all staff back in the building.

B. Capitol Area Plan

Liz Ames provided a report on the Capitol Area Plan, of which DGS is responsible for administering. Ms. Ames discussed the context behind the purpose of a Capitol Area Plan. In 1959, the creation of a Capitol Building and Planning Commission was authorized. The group was charged with preparing a master plan for the orderly development of future state buildings in the Capitol area. The first California State Capitol Plan was developed in December 1960. The administration changed directions in the early 1970s and in 1976, the Capitol Area Plan Advisory Committee was established to work with DGS on an action plan with a set of policies and guidelines. The 1977 Capitol Area Plan focused on the State's presence in, and impact on, the core area of the city. It was adopted as the official state master plan for land use. In 1978, the Capitol Area Development Authority was created to implement the plans and objectives of the State Capitol Area Plan as it related to residential and commercial properties. Then, in 1997, the Capitol Area Plan was updated to consolidate state offices, plan for long-term needs and reflect current conditions. DGS is responsible for submitting a progress report to the Legislature every year. The Capitol View Protection Plan extends down Capitol Mall.

C. Capitol Mall District

Megan Davis, of David Taylor Interests, presented information on the Capitol Mall District, which she is the representative. The district was formed in 2010 by eight property manager partners to brand the district and promote an environment that supports the work life balance for tenants and residents in nearby apartments. The group has established a Farmers Market, toy drives, and celebrity carving contests. Their primary objective is to get people out of the buildings and utilize the space and form a community. Their group was financially supportive of the Capitol Mall design competition. They plan to promote more evening and weekend events. Mr. Sanchez brought up the wind factor issue and recommended that new landscaping be integrated to minimize it.

D. California Mexican-American Veterans Memorial Committee

Prepared remarks from Chairman Robert Ruiz were distributed to members.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. Department of General Services

1. Project Management Branch

Ms. Elliot provided an update:

- A. Capitol Park Master Plan - There is no funding for the Capitol Park Master Plan, so there has been no forward movement. Mr. Cowan requested a cash-loaded schedule that would delineate money needed in annual increments. Ms. Elliot confirmed that the topographic map is complete. A digital copy was requested by the Commission.
- B. Infrastructure
 1. Electrical - completed a large replacement of electrical panels and 20 small transformers.
 2. Mechanical - working on the replacement of fan room components. One room is completed; 4 are scheduled for Fall.
 3. Water intrusion - working on leaking and damage windows.
 4. East Doors - project is complete.
- C. Memorials - All memorial requests are now being funneled through Building and Property Management and directly to Chief Angela Verbaere. Ms. Benoit distributed an updated list of current memorials, and reviewed the meeting with Assemblyman Hagman and his staff concerning the proposed Ronald Reagan statue. Other memorial bills include the American Portuguese Veterans memorial and Iraq war memorial.
- D. New Projects
 1. DGS is working on a project called COBCP, which is talk for putting together the initial scope for a large renovation project in the East Annex. The focus will be on fire and life safety issues.
 2. Kathy Jacobsen provided a status report on the tree plaque project that the California Federation of Women's Club is proposing. DGS is working on the design of the plaque (4" x 6"): horizontal, text only, no images, and placed at eye level. The screws have springs that adjust as the tree grows (UC Davis Arboretum has same). The final design will be presented to the Commission for review. They plan on using an outside contractor to install the 1,110 plaques. Marilyn Nelson will look into whether they have to be ADA compliant. Once the project is complete, Rules will update the "Trees in Capitol Park" brochure and make available on Parks website. Casey Hayden inquired about the ability for smartphone tagging. Ms. Jacobsen will look into it.
 3. Robin Libby reported on the monumental door repair project. DGS is looking at Blue Line Engineering, who worked at the Library and Courts renovation, to do the repairs. Cleaning of the Isabella statue is completed; DGS is waiting on the report.

2. Building and Property Management

Nothing to report.

B. California State Parks/State Capitol Museum

Casey Hayden reported that Ty Smith has taken a job with the city and is no longer with the museum. This could affect the exhibit schedule; current exhibits may be extended. The IA was signed with Joint Rules for the tour program. The Stanford mansion is under a separate IA. Ms. Benoit broached the subject of the *Past into Present* rewrite. With Ty gone, Mr. Hayden indicated that he would look into the project.

C. Senate and Assembly Facilities

Tony Beard, Chief Senate Sergeant-At-Arms, discussed security cameras in the Historic West Wing. The west doors and west monumental staircase are currently not under camera view. Their proposal is to install two security cameras at the West Entrance, above the doors, in order to provide for the general safety of the public but also provide a view of the metal detector and its operation. The cameras are very small, would be installed at each corner of the top molding, and would be minimally invasive.

Motion: Mr. Donaldson

2nd: Ms. Schwartz

Approved: Yes

Action: to install 2 additional security cameras at the West Entrance

D. Goals/Subcommittee Reports

1. Maintenance Plan – nothing to report

2. Communication – nothing to report

3. Capitol View Protection Plan

- a. Capitol Mall Competition - Members discussed likes and dislikes of the various entries. Ms. Benoit will draft a letter to Bill Crouch outlining the comments.

4. Park Memorials

- a. Statues in Capitol Rotunda - Ms. Benoit briefed members on proposed legislation that would authorize the Ronald Reagan Centennial Capitol Foundation, with DGS and a specially created committee, to construct a memorial to Ronald Reagan in the Capitol. Mike Zimmerman with Assemblyman Martin Garrick's office informed members of a resolution last year that commemorated the 100th birthday of Reagan along with the creation of a centennial commission. One of the commission's goals is to create monuments throughout the country. Mr. Cowan related the meeting with Assemblyman Hagman, where they discussed locations, the possibility of other statues, instituting a policy, and a possible rotating schedule. Mr. Donaldson raised the concern about statues in the West Wing. Members discussed the period of significance for the West Wing. Bronze would be appropriate. The location should be appropriate for the statue, which would necessitate working with staff and the sculptor. Members were in agreement to work cooperatively to find alternate locations and to assemble policy and guidelines (U.S. Capitol guidelines for National Hall of Statuary) for whether statuary should be, or can be, introduced.

- b. Veterans Memorial Development Plan - Ms. Benoit reviewed her research on the All Veterans Memorial and language in various proposed memorial legislation. Mr. Cowan is working with JP Tremblay.

E. Capitol Art Program

Nothing to report.

F. 9149 Amendment (AB2445)

Les Spahn, legislative director for Assemblyman Roger Dickinson, updated members on AB 2445, legislation that would add to the scope of the jurisdiction of the Commission. It would include a broad definition, with regards to what in the East Annex would be subject to review, in terms of historic fabric as well as Capitol Park, pending approval of the Master Plan. Mr. Dickinson would like to see the Park included as he believes the Commission is the appropriate body to consider memorial proposals. The bill is scheduled to be heard in Assembly Rules on April 19. The bill analysis should be available prior to the meeting. The bill will then go either to Appropriations or the Floor. Ms. Benoit referenced ACR148 (Bane), and other sources pertaining to a master plan, some dating back as far as 22 years.

G. Other

1. Painting study funding sources – No response from State Parks Foundation on 8/25/11 letter. Ms. Benoit forwarded information to Julia Rosenberg as a possible project for her group.

2. Historic Capitol corner pillars – Nothing to report.

3. Monument District – Mr. Cowan reported on his meeting with Councilmember Cohn. A group of staff, DGS and CADA representatives walked Capitol Park and other surrounding areas. Councilman Cohn suggested that his planning department nominate 10 sites which could be offered for monuments, and conduct a prototype program to see if monuments can go in other locations.

4. Capitol Restoration Materials – Ms. Benoit reported that the project is moving forward. Legislative Counsel is working on the draft Deed of Gift to specify what items should be kept restricted, such as social security #s, workers compensation suits, legal opinions, etc.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Profile in Courage display - Ms. Benoit briefed members on the proposed Profile in Courage award display. State Parks exhibit designer has prepared two design schemes for the West entrance. Leadership wants the display in a common, public area. Mr. Donaldson brought up the issue of the 'slippery slope' - once you allow something to go in the Rotunda or the West wing, then there will be others. Members agreed that it should be displayed, it's a prestigious award, but not in the Historic West Wing. The West Wing should remain clear. As a side note, Ms. Lenoil mentioned that Secretary of State Debra Bowen also received the award four years ago.

Motion: Mr. Donaldson

2nd: Ms. Schwartz

Approved: Yes

Action: to send a letter to Joint Rules recommending that the award not be located in the West Wing and that a suitable location be found in the East Annex and the final design complement that location.

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B. Assembly appointees – two previous candidates are still interested.

C. Future Presentations – State Treasurer’s Office security project

D. Grand Lodge of the Free and Accepted Masons of California – proposal from the Masons to rededicate the State Capitol Cornerstone, and create a historical display on the cornerstone and its importance to the history of the Capitol, in June 2014.

E. Next meeting - scheduled for Friday, July 20, 2012

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 12:24pm.