

Minutes  
Historic State Capitol Commission  
Quarterly Meeting  
July 12, 2018

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 12, 2018 at 9:03 am PST.

Commissioners Present

Presiding: Dick Cowan, Chair  
Roberta Deering  
Cathy Garrett  
Nancy Lenoil (Tamara Martin representing)  
Greg Lucas (Narinder Sufi representing)  
Julianne Polanco

Commissioners Absent

Paula Peper

Visitors

John Allen, California State Parks, State Capitol Museum  
Bob Dreyer, California State Capitol Museum Volunteer Association  
Jeff Tsuruoka, Department of General Services  
Leia Riley, Department of General Services  
Gary Lewis, Department of General Services  
Kathy Park, Department of General Services  
Mike Nielsen, Department of General Services  
Charles Smith, Department of General Services  
Geanie Hollingsworth, Assembly Rules Facilities  
Bob Ruffner, Senate Rules  
Jay Correia, Office of Historic Preservation

Koren Benoit, Executive Director and Recording Secretary

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

Chairman Cowan called the meeting to order at 9:03 am.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Motion:Ms. Garrett**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: Ms. Polanco**

**Approved: Yes**

**Action: Approve the minutes of the April 12, 2018 meeting.**

### **III. OLD BUSINESS**

#### A. East Annex Update

Members discussed the status of the East Annex project. Gary Lewis indicated that Joel Griffith, Department of General Services (DGS) Capitol Outlay Program Manager who is managing the Annex project, will attend the Commission's October meeting and provide members with an update. Members asked if Mr. Griffith could also provide a schedule of what is to come and inform the Commission as to when to get involved. Ms. Deering emphasized the need of ensuring that DGS informs Joint Rules of all three design alternatives, both pros and cons. Both the Senate and Assembly Chambers will be in use during construction. Members questioned how this might affect entering and exiting, which is currently through the Annex. Mr. Cowan and Ms. Deering reviewed their meeting with Mr. Cooley, reporting that he asked to have language removed from the Commission's proposed memo to Joint Rules Committee members that addressed the possibility that the footprint of the new Annex could encroach upon the Civil War Grove. Mr. Cooley expressed strong devotion to the Grove and indicated that he would not approve or advocate any such plan. Ms. Garrett requested that the issue be kept in the forefront (despite the removal of the language). They discussed the Commission's role in the project as well as timing. Mr. Cowan and Ms. Deering expressed concerns about going directly with the demolition/build new option; they will continue to request that the other options (remodel, renovation and expansion) be considered and that Joint Rules not make their decision solely on the CHSQA report. Members discussed the issue of the floors not aligning between the Historic West Wing and the East Annex; if the new Annex is a separate building, that issue is moot. Concerns were raised relating to the impact on tree roots in Capitol Park. Ms. Polanco mentioned that this project could be a role model on how to blend the East Annex with the West Wing and respect the historic structure. Ms. Benoit addressed the issue of AB 1826 bill language (Section 2) that addresses an appropriation of \$20 million to cover the costs of the design and construction of components of the project that will modify portions of the West wing of the State Capitol and how that would affect the historic fabric of the Historic State Capitol Building. Members are waiting on the formal MOU. Mr. Cooley agreed to address members at the October meeting.

**Motion:** Ms. Deering  
**2<sup>nd</sup>:** Ms. Garrett  
**Approved:** Yes  
**Action:** **Reconvene the East Annex subcommittee to devise a list of questions for Assemblyman Cooley and Joel Griffith and provide them prior to the October meeting; also address the Commission's involvement moving forward.**

#### B. Senate and Assembly Facilities

Geanie Hollingsworth reported that the Assembly was taking care of minor carpet repairs during the summer recess. The Senate is cleaning their chamber, and arranging to have the Washington portrait inspected and dusted. The Assembly chamber will be cleaned in the fall.

C. Department of General Services  
1. Project Management Development Branch

a. Memorial Update

DGS reported that they have not heard from CA Fire Foundation regarding modifications to the existing fire fighters memorial. The pavers for the American Portuguese Veterans memorial are being replaced, as the vendor was not happy with the final product.

Members discussed new memorial legislation and addressed adding language missing from the Lara and Wilk bills that relate to postponing memorials until the Master Plan is in effect.

Ms. Benoit provided a handout to members outlining new legislation:

AB 2116 (Melendez) Bill of Rights Monument; in Assembly Rules pending committee referral

AB 2667 (Cooley) State Capitol Building Annex: historic symbols; to be heard in Senate Appropriations on 8/6

SB 1452 (Wilk) War on Terror Memorial committee; in Assembly Rules pending committee referral

SB 463 (Lara) LGBT Civil Rights Monument; in Assembly Rules

AB 2036 (Gipson) Mervyn Dymally bust; to be heard in Senate Appropriations on 8/6

**Motion:** Ms. Polanco

**2<sup>nd</sup>:** Ms. Garrett

**Approved:** Yes

**Action:** Ms. Benoit to draft letter to Senators Lara and Wilk asking them to add language that would request any legislation related to a memorial in Capitol Park consider waiting until the Master Plan in complete; reference previous and subsequent bills.

The Commission gave DGS permission to state that adding this language is a formal recommendation of the Commission.

b. Pending Projects

Mr. Tsuruoka introduced Leia Riley, the new project manager taking over for Karen Lott, who retired, and Gary Lewis, who is the new Capitol Outlay Program Manager overseeing the Capitol.

Mr. Tsuruoka reported that the bronze plaque at the west lawn has been recessed so it is flush with the granite slab. The cleaning is complete. Ms. Riley reported that the architectural consultant for the new infrastructure project is Paige & Turnbull (the previous consultant was Carey & Company). They will work on the West Wing balcony and portico water damage issue. As part of the barrier removal project for the basement restaurant, new signage is to be installed by the end of July and work on the basement restrooms and drinking fountains completed in the Fall. The chamber temperature control project is complete. The yearlong West Wing duct-cleaning project is underway. Mr. Tsuruoka will forward the report done on the Capitol Park Insectary. He reported a slight delay with the central plant recycled water project – something to do with code issues. The water will be piped to the park and mixed with domestic water for irrigation; there are possible other uses for it in the future (perhaps

the new O Street building) but the primary use will be irrigation. Kathy Park reported on the yew tree project, which entails removing existing lawn under the mature yew trees and providing them their own irrigation system (low precipitation bubbler) independent from the lawn watering. Decomposed granite will be placed under the yew trees for a cleaner look and a concrete mow band will separate the granite from the lawn. The project should be completed by end of July. Members asked about updating all the park irrigation, stating that it should be part of the Master Plan or the Tree Management plan. There are permeable pavers left over from the project and staff is looking into how to incorporate them in other projects.

#### c. Future Projects

Staff reported that funds have been allocated for a design/build project for the Jesse Unruh Building. The project will be similar in scope to that completed on the Library and Courts Building. It is expected to be completed by 2023.

### 2. Facilities Management Branch

Charles Smith reported that they are working in the Senate Chamber, doing high dusting and replacing light bulbs. Window washing in the Capitol and LOB (exterior and interior) will take place later; a new utility crew has been hired to handle extra jobs.

### 3. Capitol Park

Mike Nielsen, acting park superintendent, reported that DGS is aerating the back half of the park. Other areas will follow. They are refreshing tree wells and flowerbeds with mulch to retain moisture and reduce weeds. They are also conducting irrigation checks (they are irrigating mostly at night). He is working with Ms. Peper on the tree project: they have received eight different seed varieties to give to UCD for germinating, and three trees were delivered to UCD for holding until they are large enough to be planted. DGS is working diligently at building back up the diversity of the trees in Capitol Park. Ms. Garrett asked if there would be an annual report produced to maintain communication about the project. Mr. Nielsen responded that he is working with UCD and Paula to establish one, perhaps every 6 months.

### E. California Capitol Historic Preservation Society (CCHPS)

Dan Visnich spoke from a prepared statement and provided a packet to members outlining the status of CCHPS. The Society will be ceasing operations by next year, but will still serve the Commission in a limited manner. The Society's assets, including the furniture and art collection, will be transferred to the Crocker Art Museum. It is the Society's recommendation that the Legislature reconsider expanding the Commission's authority over the entire historic Capitol Complex and there should be a priority to recreate the historic East apse and façade as part of the Annex project.

### F. California State Parks/State Capitol Museum

John Allen reported that they are busy with the summer season, and hiring new guides to fill empty spots. Staff is conducting research for the 2019 exhibit and working closely with the State Archives.

Parks' exhibit shop will be moving in 2019, so next year's exhibit may stay up longer than usual. They are looking into a second life for the "On the Road" exhibit and may lend it to the auto museum.

#### G. California State Capitol Museum Volunteer Association

Bob Dreyer reported that the Association is busy with normal summer activities. They plan to participate in the November armistice celebration with living history-type events. In September/October, they will advertise for a new class of volunteers that would actively start in January. Phil Sexton (State Park Interpreter III in charge of the interpretation and education programs at the Capitol and in the Capital District) wants volunteers to take more of a storyteller role rather than just memorizing scripts. He also wants to increase living history events at the Capitol.

#### **IV. 2018 GOALS**

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

2018 Goal: Develop a Capitol Park Tree removal and replacement plan for day-to-day tree management for DGS

**Motion:** Ms. Garrett

**2<sup>nd</sup>:** Ms. Deering

**Approved:** Yes

**Action:** Ms. Benoit will draft and add language to this goal addressing rezoning of irrigation in Capitol Park

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

2018 Goal: Ensure plan is captured as part of the East Annex project.

Members discussed how to keep this issue on the radar. Ms. Polanco agreed to draft a goal overview statement.

##### **Goal Area: Assist and Advise on the East Annex Project**

2018 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.

##### **Goal Area: Creation of a Monument District near the Capitol**

2018 Goal: Develop in 2018 the structure of the District and format of an MOU among agencies which would support such a District.

Ms. Deering reported on attending the panel discussion at the Crocker Art Museum concerning the River Crossing project, a temporary public art/place-making opportunity to promote connectivity across the Sacramento River. The project is part of a larger Master Plan that would serve as a blueprint to integrate new housing, recreation, art and civic space. Members decided to reconvene the subcommittee to draft a "briefing sheet" on the monument district that could be distributed. Ms. Benoit will facilitate.

#### **V. CURATOR'S REPORT**

Ms. Benoit distributed a copy of the notice sent out announcing that the Commission's website was live. The announcement was also listed in the Daybook. It is accessible from the Senate and Assembly home pages. Ms. Benoit also reported on ongoing discussions with Joint Rules, State Capitol Museum staff and CHP on ways to protect the Columbus and Isabella statue following the June 4 protest. Museum staff is to resume their quarterly dusting of the statue. Ms. Benoit is working with the Senate Office of International Relations to inventory existing gifts to the Senate that are displayed in both the International Relations office and the display case outside the Senate Sergeants office. There currently is no inventory, which numbers well over one hundred.

#### **VI. MISCELLANEOUS**

Ms. Lenoil was not available to provide an update on the historic flag collection. Ms. Benoit reported that John Worsley's widow has signed the Deed of Gift transferring Mr. Worsley's manuscript and other Capitol Restoration Project-related materials to the State Archives (including reel-to-reel tapes, AV tapes, slides and paperwork).

#### **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

Ms. Benoit distributed copies of the 2017 annual report.

Ms. Garret informed members of her resignation. She will follow up with a letter to the Speaker. She and other members were asked to provide recommendations to the Speaker for her replacement.

#### **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15am.