

Minutes
Historic State Capitol Commission
Commission Meeting
July 20, 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 Friday, July 20, 2012, at approximately 9:31 am PST.

Presiding: Dick Cowan, Chair

Commissioners Present

Stacey Aldrich
Jay Correia (for Wayne Donaldson)
Melodi Anderson (for Nancy Lenoil)
Luis Sanchez

Commissioners Absent

Janie Schwartz

Visitors

Dan Visnich, CA Capitol Historic Preservation Society
David Gonsalves, Assemblyman Roger Dickinson
John Ochoa, CA Mexican-American Veterans Memorial
Robert Ruiz, CA Mexican-American Veterans Memorial
Pedro Hernandez, CA Mexican-American Veterans Memorial
Pella McCormick, Department of General Services
Robin Libby, Department of General Services
Viletta Campbell, Department of General Services
Joey Penneman, SMUD
Mark Jagodzinski, SMUD
Casey Hayden, State Parks
Gary Stonehouse, CA State Parks, President, Museum Volunteer Association
Erin Renfree, CA State Parks
Rich Levine, CA State Parks
Cathy Taylor, CA State Parks

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 9:31 am. The recording secretary read the roll. All visitors were asked to introduce themselves.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: Ms. Aldrich

2nd: Ms. Anderson

Approved: Yes

Action: To approve the April 2012 meeting minutes with a minor edit on page 5, under *New Business*.

III. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

A. California Mexican-American Veterans Memorial Committee

Prepared remarks from Chairman Robert Ruiz were distributed to members, covering milestones and financial accomplishments. There was much discussion regarding public-funded projects vs. private-funded projects. Members raised the issue of price: private (@ \$500K+) and public (@ \$850K+). There are cost savings with a private contract (i.e. the contractor won't be making any money due to the small size of the project, ability to negotiate with subcontractors, and no additional administrative program costs). Prevailing wages would remain. The committee is looking into an exemption through legislation that would allow the Mexican-American Veterans Memorial to be exempt from the Public Contracts code. Other options would be to seek an opinion through the Legislative Analyst's Office or the Attorney General. Members agreed to discuss the issue further in a follow-up meeting with the CDVA Under Secretary on Monday.

B. California State Parks

Cathy Taylor, District Superintendent for the Capital District and Casey Hayden, Director, State Capitol Museum, provided an update on the museum program. They are maintaining an active exhibit program; the Women's Suffrage and WWI exhibits are continuing. A contemporary Indian art exhibit is planned next, as well as an extensive Dust Bowl exhibit in 2013. In 2015, a Pan American exhibit is scheduled. Another goal is to get the PORTs program reestablished. The Stanford Mansion still operates as the State Protocol Center and Parks works with Assembly Rules and the Governor's office to schedule events, etc. The visitor program has been incorporated into the State Capitol tour program. The Governor's Mansion is off the closure list due to a successful fundraising effort.

Gary Stonehouse, President of the State Capitol Museum Volunteers Association, explained that the volunteers' purpose is to promote the educational and interpretive activities of the State Capitol Museum. There are over 100 volunteers who provide 12-14,000 hours a year. Volunteers interpret the 1st floor offices, staff the west information desk, and provide some tours. They also produce 4-5 living history events: Election Day, Earthquake Day, Historic Governor's Day, Women's Suffrage Day, and Camellia Day. Volunteers provide assistance whenever and wherever needed. Erin Renfree, guide supervisor, provided an introduction to the guide staff. There are 8 full-time guides, 8 part-time guides and 2 guide supervisors. The tour office provides brochures in various languages, and tours in Greek, Spanish and Chinese. There are four films in the theatre (all close-captioned). Guides also do extensive research and host the holiday music program. Ms. Aldrich asked about incorporating a docent program at the newly-restored Library and Courts building.

C. AB 2445

David Gonsalves, with Assemblyman Dickinson's office, updated members on AB 2445, proposed legislation to expand the Commission's jurisdiction. The bill was amended in Senate Appropriations and is headed to the Senate Floor, where it is expected to pass out.

D. Library and Courts Renovation

Pella McCormick, Supervising Project Director with Department of General Services, provided an update on the renovation project. The project is 75% complete with a finish date of December 2012. The estimated overall cost is projected at \$45 million. The scope of the project is to update the infrastructure and deal with the degeneration of the windows and terra cotta skin. All the original wood windows have been repaired, the roof replaced and new energy efficient measures added. DGS is also working on a number of artisan-detailed works, such as murals, coffered ceilings, etc. The construction team has discovered strange renovations that have had to be remedied, and dealt with extensive terra cotta replacement and reglazing and paint adhesion problems due to numerous layers of paint. DGS located a buffalo hide to replace the library leather door, and Cirecast recreated the brass tacks. SHPO has been involved throughout the entire process. Carey & Company is the lead architect, overseeing numerous subcontractors, including Blue Line Engineering, who is handling the casework. Members bemoaned the fact that, although maintenance needs for historic buildings are different from contemporary buildings, they are still budgeted the same.

E. SMUD

Mr. Penneman presented alternative lighting lamps for the Historic State Capitol, balancing the governor's green initiative with the historic light tones. There have been many attempts to update the lighting in the Capitol, one of the last concerns being CFLs and mercury. The new lamps are mercury-free, simulate 60 watts but only use 10, and are fully dimmable. The lamps were developed in conjunction with a \$10 million grant by the Department of Energy that was awarded to Philips. A similar 12.5-watt lamp is in effect at the Stanford Mansion. Lamp life is 25,000 hours compared to a typical incandescent life of 2,000 hours. DGS reported that all the lamps have been taken out of the wall sconces in the West Wing and replaced, but they are still seeing inconsistent lighting. State Parks is considering the same lamps for the museum rooms and at the Governor's Mansion. A Green Team is data logging energy consumption in the West Wing, the East Annex and LOB.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. Department of General Services

1. Project Management Branch

Ms. McCormick provided an update:

- A. Capitol Park Master Plan - There is little to no funding for the Capitol Park Master Plan. The park survey is complete and UC Davis landscape department is assisting with research into some of the historic plantings and history of the park. Mr. Cowan asked for an incremental approach to the funding that he could use to promote the project.
- B. Infrastructure
 1. Electrical - completed a significant reworking of the electrical panels
 2. Mechanical – completed a successful prototype fan room and are moving forward with completing the rest
 3. Water intrusion – all window leaks have been corrected
 4. East Doors - project is complete

- C. Memorials - All memorial requests are being funneled through Building and Property Management and directly to Chief Angela Verbaere. It is hoped that Ms. Verbaere can attend the October meeting and provide an update.
- D. New Projects
 - 1. DGS is working on a large renovation project in the East Annex. The focus is to identify a hierarchy and establish timelines and costs. All the systems are at an age where they require either major upgrades or total replacements. The project is still in the preliminary stages.
 - 2. DGS should have a prototype and update in October for the park tree-plaque project.
 - 3. Robin Libby reported on the monumental door repair project. Blue Line Engineering is doing the repairs, scheduled for September. The cleaning of the Isabella statue is done; DGS is waiting on the report.

2. Building and Property Management

Les Strike not in attendance; rolled over to October meeting.

B. Senate and Assembly Facilities

MS. Benoit reported on ceiling repairs in the pro Tem's reception area and on the third floor landing. John Feliz provided an update on the proposed 'beautification' of the East Annex hallways. The Speaker has suggested enlarged elevations from drawings, blue prints, decorative elements, etc. balanced with real-life photography. These would be displayed in selected areas, in a non-permanent fashion, using the corridor walls as a gallery. The Assembly is looking at various mediums, including vehicle wrap material. The Speaker would like to see the images up by fall. If the images are framed, they could be used in other locations. Mr. Feliz will send samples to Ms. Benoit to distribute to members prior to the October meeting. Mr. Feliz also discussed a proposal to add an element to the cluster of wall signs outside each committee room that would incorporate a fold-out ledge to hold bill analyses, paperwork, agendas, etc. , rather than using a contemporary table in the hallway. The new element would blend with the design and material of the other signs. Members voted against the proposal, but recommended the purchase of an appropriate period table to be used when needed.

C. Goals/Subcommittee Reports

- 1. Maintenance Plan – nothing to report.
- 2. Communication – Chairman Cowan reported on his meeting with Greg and Jon. He will now provide a heads-up as to what will be discussed so they can be prepared.
- 3. Capitol View Protection Plan – Mr. Sanchez reported that Bill Crouch has left to accept a position in Beverly Hills as an urban design and preservation manager. It is not clear if his position will be filled. The Capitol Mall Competition generated great publicity but staff is dealing with more pressing issues. Mr. Sanchez recommended meeting with Councilmember Cohn twice a year to keep the project alive, and agreed to schedule a meeting.
- 4. Memorials - Chairman Cowan provided an update on various proposed memorials, including the Portuguese Veterans Memorial and the Reagan statue (amended to reflect that the statue should be in the East Annex). Assemblyman Hagman's staff has requested a letter from the Commission outlining its participation in the process thus far. Ms. Benoit stated

that she is researching other capitols for statuary policies and recommended drafting a policy for 3-D objects in both the West Wing and East Annex. Mike Zimmerman with *Historic State Capitol Commission*
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Assemblyman Garrick's office asked for Commission assistance in determining a location for the statue in the East Annex. Members discussed design elements, fire/life safety concerns, and symmetry.

D. Capitol Art Program

Ms. Benoit informed members that the Profile in Courage award project is still with the pro Tem.

E. Other

1. Paint study funding sources – nothing to report.
2. Historic Capitol corner pillars – nothing to report.
3. Capitol Restoration Materials – Ms. Benoit reported that Legislative Counsel is still reviewing the draft Deed of Gift language.

V. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Assembly appointee – Chairman Cowan confirmed with Jon Waldie that the vacancy should be filled after the recess.
- b. Future presentations – Angela Verbaere, State Treasurer, and Capitol Park tree plaques
- c. October meeting – Thursday, October 11, 2012
- d. Annual Report – members voted for the architectural blueprint cover.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 12:40pm.