

Minutes

Capitol Preservation Commission

3:00 p.m. – April 19, 2012

Room 412 C

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

The Meeting Notice was filed with the Office of the Secretary of State in accordance with the Open Meeting Act.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Richard Ellwanger
Larry Warden
Brian Downs
Linda Edmondson
Doug Kellogg
Lou Kerr
Mark Liotta
Duane Mass
Paul Meyer
John Morrison
James Pickel
Trait Thompson
Louis Trost

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

OTHERS ATTENDING:

Beverly Hicks – Department of Central Services
Karl Kramer – Office of Attorney General
Kim Baker – Oklahoma Arts Council
Amber Sharples – Oklahoma Arts Council
Karl Kramer – Office of the Attorney General
Denise Martin – Capitol-Medical Center and Zoning Commission
Gaylene Stupic – Citizen 10 Commandments Monument
Michael McNutt – Reporter with the Oklahoman
Shaun Ashley – E Capitol

Determination of Quorum and Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ellwanger and it was ascertained that a quorum was present.

Discussion and possible action on Minutes of the April 19, 2012 Meeting

Vice-Chairman Warden moved approval of the Minutes with Ms. Kerr seconding the motion. The April 19, 2012 Minutes were unanimously approved by the Commission as presented.

Discussion and possible action on finalizing fire extinguisher cabinet installation

Coming out of Architecture and Grounds sub-committee, Capitol Architect, Mr. Mass made the commission aware that the Friends of the Capitol have agreed to pay for the installation and the equipment. Mr. Mass and Mr. Meyer are working together on finding a contractor that will provide reasonable cost for this project and then move forward. Chairman Ellwanger extended his appreciation to the Friends of the Capitol. No vote was taken.

Discussion and possible action on approving plaza for Ten Commandments monument

Coming out of the Architectural Grounds sub-committee, Mr. Mass made the commission aware this item could not be found in the past minutes, to where it specifically approved the materials surrounding the location and what the monument would be placed on.

Mr. Mass said they presented a small drawing showing the configuration and discussed the materials, which are, as best as possible to match the material on the south. Mr. Meyer has agreed to help in assisting Mr. Mass with vendors on this project.

Mr. Mass made the commission aware that the orientation, material, size and issued drawing, sheet A100, April 11, 2011 carried over in the sub-committee. He is seeking approval from the commission to carry the item forward with him being responsible in its entirety of the project. At the request of Chairman Ellwanger, Mr. Mass provided schematics for those on the commission who were not able to view. After viewing from the commission, Chairman Ellwanger asked for all of those in favor of the motion to signify by saying aye; opposed saying sine. The motion carried unanimously.

Update and discussion regarding condition of Capitol building and possible funding mechanisms for restoration

Chairman Ellwanger asked from Mr. Morrison and Mr. Mass to give the commission a status update. Mr. Morrison reported that the House Appropriations Committee asked him for some additional information on a break down of expected cost, he updated the cost to the best of his ability and provided them with the information.

Mr. Morrison was also asked from the House Appropriations Committee about a possible structure of how the project would be ran, he recommended to their committee Chair that the Capitol Preservation Commission be placed in charge of that, a designated restoration committee that would have oversight of the process and have the opportunity for additional appointees to that committee from other elected officials and stake holders and the House Appropriations Committee Chair seemed to be very receptive to it.

Mr. Mass informed the commission that on the request of Speaker Steele, he made a presentation to the House Caucus that was very well received with lots of engaged questions, with very few individuals that seemed to have a negative take.

Chairman Ellwanger shared with the commission that he had the opportunity to speak with both of his legislators, one thought the bond would pass and the other one thought it would have to go to the vote of the people. He also asked the commission if they had an opportunity to speak with their legislators;

Mr. Trost asked Chairman Ellwanger and Mr. Mass if they had an opportunity to speak with the Governor. Chariman Ellwanger had not spoken with her but Mr. Mass had spoken to a couple of people on her staff and gave them a presentation to bring them up to speed on where we're at.

Mr. Trost informed the commission that he visited with Guy Liebmann. He feels Mr. Libemann wants to get this underway for the full amount, with Mr. Mass supporting what he is saying. Mr. Trost has kept is representative, Randy McDaniel aware by providing him copies of the report.

Chairman Ellwanger has asked the commission of recommendations to forward these efforts. Co-Chairman Warden suggested talking to the membership. Mr. Morrison said that it's his impression that the leadership has decided that it's the legislature's responsibility and should not be sent to the vote of the people.

Ms. Kerr would like us to educate the legislature on the gravity, on all of the problems that we know exist and have known existed over the past few years and compounded by a lot of other things that have happened to the Capitol. She feels that it is the commissions charge to help the legislature to perceive the best ways to get the funding and the needs addressed.

Mr. Downs advised the commission on how to go about each of the projects, to entail in what order and what effect it would have on the legislature meeting next year and in future years as the commission goes through the process. He emphasized that it's really important to the legislature of what it will look like so that they will make an informed decision of how the renovations are done in piece by piece sections in the Capitol. He encourages the commission to keep both caucuses informed, to reach out to democrat leaders on each side and offer up presentation to them.

Mr. Liotta informed the commission that the most important thing has already been done by Chairman Ellwanger giving the facts to the Caucus, which he feels is the most effective way to make the case. In the decision about the bond issue, Mr. Liotta encouraged the commission to build the ground work so that the legislature can make the case in those negotiations.

Mr. Trait informed the commission that he would speak with Minority Leader Burrage, as well as speaking to leaders of his caucus.

Mr. Morrison said that the exterior renovation restoration of the façade and the roof is work that is independent of anything that is done. He will cost scope it and make an execution on it immediately; he feels that it's a long, exploratory process and while that's taking place, the planning committee that is responsible for improving the plans will engage the Department of Central Services and retain planners, architects and engineers to come on board and start the planning, schematic, scoping and cost. He feels like it has to go through that process before we can answer any questions of how it will be done in the different stages.

Mr. Downs posed the question, will the planning process shift the estimates on renovation. He feels one of the things that the legislature will be concerned about is approving a potential bond project that may not meet the full estimate, and to prevent coming back year after year to keep putting money into another project in which he informed the commission that we're facing currently. Mr. Downs feels that if the planning isn't complete, will it shift the estimates in either direction where they may not be a true estimate for the legislatures to vote on.

Mr. Mass responded to Mr. Downs in thoughts about this project and when they did the conditions report and distributed the information, he went to the third parties and put a number to it, is where the figure of ninety million derived from. He feels one of the tough things about this project is the soft cost, such as relocation, temporary space and all that entails. Mr. Downs was concerned about the uncertain amount of the soft cost and informed Mr. Mass that five weeks is left of the legislative session and feels that it would be a tough turn around time to put together the master plan on how this all will work and feels that it will be one of the biggest questions asked of the members of both bodies.

Mr. Morrison said the conversations that he's had in the past couple of years with the legislature and current leaders in both chambers, and one of the recommendations that the Department of Central Services made last year, since they've been unsuccessful getting the project funded, is to take another year and if there were ten million dollars this year they would get going on the façade restoration and would have a couple of million dollars to actually do planning, schematics and come up with the actual plan and cost and then come back and inform the legislature of the cost the next year. Mr. Morrison said that there won't be an actual plan by the end of session.

Chairman Ellwanger wrapped the conversation up by encouraging the commission to discuss their ideas, the discussions that take place in the commission meetings with the stake holders and if they have questions we will gather more information

Discussion and possible action on Capitol Galleries Schedule

Coming out of the Art Standards sub-committee, Vice-Chairman Warden made sure that the commission was provided with copies of the proposal for the Capitol Galleries by Ms. Sharples. The recommendation of the committee is to approve the schedule as presented. Ms. Sharples educated the commission about the FY 2013 Capitol Galleries Exhibition Proposal. Chairman Ellwanger presented to the commission that it is the recommendation of the Art Standards sub-committee to accept the proposed schedule. The motion was passed unanimously by the commission.

Discussion and possible action on beaded wild flower bouquet by Rachel McCampbell

Coming out of the Art Standards sub-committee, Vice-Chairman Warden said, it is the recommendation of the committee to approve the transfer of the bouquet to the Friends of the Mansion and to de-access it from the Capitol Arts with the motion to approve. Chairman Ellwanger asked that all of those in favor of transferring the bouquet to the Friends of the Mansion, for use in the Governor's Mansion to signify by saying aye. The motion was passed unanimously by the commission.

Discussion and possible action on renewing temporary loan of "Oh, What a Beautiful Mornin" painting on first floor

Coming out of the Art Standards sub-committee, Vice-Chairman Warden made the commission aware that this is a renewal that is done every year on a year by year basis. The recommendation of the committee is to renew the loan. Chairman Ellwanger informed the commission that he has asked Ms. Sharples once a year to do a conditions report on the painting because it is not our property but is in our care. The painting belongs to the Chickasaw Nation and has been on loan to us since 2009. Chairman Ellwanger presented to the commission that it is the recommendation of the Art Standards sub-committee to extend or renew the one year loan of the painting. The motion was passed unanimously by the commission.

Chairman Ellwanger shared his appreciation of Mr. Meyer making the commission aware that this project was thought of by the Friends of the Capitol and was negotiated with the Chickasaw's to be able to have this painting in the Capitol. It was also the image used during the Oklahoma Centennial on the Centennial stamp.

Discussion and possible action on signage for the Te Ata and Dr. John Hope Franklin Portraits

Coming out of the Art Standards sub-committee, Vice-Chairman Warden made the commission aware that there was some discussion in the committee about the wording in the signage and some concern about what it would be made of; concern of the quality and if it would be good enough. The decision of the Committee was to postpone it until the June meeting to give them more time to research the quality. No action was taken. Chairman Ellwanger tabled the item until June.

Discussion and possible action on temporary placement of Chief Allen Wright portrait in 5th floor north hallway

Coming out of the Art Standards sub-committee, Vice-Chairman Warden informed Chairman Ellwanger that even though it has passed through the dedication in the Senate this is the first time the Art Standards sub-committee has had a chance to view it. It hasn't been checked as far as museum quality. It is the recommendation of the committee to postpone until the June meeting until they have more time to view it. Chairman Ellwanger made mention to the commission that they do have standards for both size and subject matter of paintings and their physical construction. This item was tabled by Chairman Ellwanger. No action was taken.

Discussion and possible action on temporary placement of Wheelock Presbyterian Church in 5th floor north hallway

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Chairman Ellwanger also mentioned that it's his understanding that this painting is on a board and the standards do not allow for it, even if it is on linen or loan; he doesn't feel that is something that the commission wants to do. There would be no environmental controls in the public space and feels it is too small. Normally for the committee to approve a painting it has to go through a series of steps on occasion some come in for immediate consideration and this something they run into and they'll have to pass it over, especially if it's something that came in late.

Collections Manager's Presentation and Report – with discussion and possible action on recommendations

Coming out of the Art Standards sub-committee, Vice-Chairman Warden informed the commission, due to running out of time in their committee meeting prior to the commission meeting; the committee decided with no action taken in their meeting, it would be better to do it one time with the commission. Ms. Sharples gave a presentation to the commission and provided each member a report.

Light Assessment by conservator Lyzanne Gann

John Morrison of Central Services generously agreed to cover the expenses for conservator Lyzanne Gann to assess the light levels entering the dome windows.

On March 26, 2012 Lyzanne Gann conducted her on-site visit. Her primary focus was to take light readings in front of the Charles Banks Wilson historic murals and portraits both in the morning and afternoon when bands of light enter the dome windows. She also assessed the artificial light sources in the area that may also damage the other paintings in the 4th floor rotunda. She will provide a report in early May that includes her findings and will present solutions that may mitigate the damage by the light sources.

As collections manager, their recommendation is that the chair of the Commission of Art Standards Committee distribute this report to leadership so that any recommendations by the conservator may be considered for inclusion in the Capitol bond issue.

Oklahoma State Senate Historical Preservation Fund – Rights and Reproductions Management

Last month, Pam Hodges left the Senate and will no longer manage the Oklahoma State Senate Historical Preservation Fund collection. The Ok Arts Council met with former Sen. Charles Ford. The Council has agreed to handle the rights and reproductions requests for the Senate website and has also revised the rights and reproductions request form.

Inventory of Artwork at Capitol

Council staff has been working to compile an inventory of state-owned and loaned artwork in the areas of the Capitol that are not controlled by the Commission, including the House, Senate, and Supreme Court. To date, Vice-Chairman Warden has provided the inventory of artwork in the House-controlled areas. Council staff will work with Senate, Supreme Court, and Senate Fund contracts to obtain inventories of their respective area in the coming months.

Risk Management Meeting

Appraisals

Council staff requested a meeting with Risk Management to discuss the fine arts policy for the State Art Collection and Capitol Art Collection. Kim Baker and Amber Sharples from the OK Arts Council met with Gene Lidyard, Janet Morrow and Theresa Howell from Risk Management on April 16, 2012. The meeting included discussions of potential risks to collections and the necessity for an updated appraisal for the

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Capitol Art Collection. Select works from the Capitol Art Collection were appraised in 1995. Since that time, the collection has grown and holds more than 100 works of art. Council staff is not qualified to provide retail replacement values for collection objects. The Council will continue to work with Risk Management to develop a recommendation for the frequency and type of appraisal needed for the collection.

Capitol Use

The Council and Risk Management also discussed working in tandem to develop recommendations revised policies for the public's use of the Capitol building. Both agencies will investigate other State Capitol policies and will take into consideration state liability and the preservation of collections while ensuring that the building be accessible to the public.

The Conservation Assessment Program Grant

The Council received the final report by conservator Mary Frederickson in March. The Council is currently reviewing the document and plans to present an executive summary of the conservator's findings at the June meeting.

Preservation Day at the Capitol: March 19, 2012

The Commission and Ok Arts Council had the opportunity to join Main Street Center and Preservation Oklahoma for the Historic Preservation State Capitol Day on Monday, March 19, 2012. Materials were provided that highlighted the Commission's accomplishments in the preservation of the Capitol. The Council provided a 1-page handout that outlined our role as collections manager of the State Art Collection and Capitol Art Collection to legislators and public officials.

Arts Day at the Capitol: April 30, 2012

Organized by Oklahomans for the Arts, the Commission has the opportunity to participate in the first Arts Day at the Capitol on Monday, April 30, 2012. The Council will highlight its role as the state agency for the arts. Our recommendation is that a designee be selected from the Commission who can contact Oklahomans for the Arts to request a table. A sign-up sheet is being distributed if Commission members would like to represent the Commission's role in the care of the Capitol Art Collection and Governor's Mansion.

Mr. Trost asked Ms. Sharples to do a presentation on the findings, when Mr. Mass did this Historic Structures report he came to the Council and asked them to do a need assessment for the Capitol, Capitol Art Collections, State Art Collection, and Temporary Gallery; needs that they saw for the Capitol. Ms. Sharples has put together a presentation and would be happy to present it at the next meeting. She passed out her report to the Commissions to have everyone review before the next meeting in June.

Mr. Trost showed appreciation to Ms. Hicks, recorder for the Capitol Preservation Commission on her updating the website.

New Business

Chairman Ellwanger made the Commission aware that the Governor signed the extension for the Capitol Preservation Commission.

Adjournment

With no additional business the meeting was adjourned at 4:18 p.m.