

State Capitol Preservation and Restoration Commission
December 16, 2009
Legislative Office Building – Hearing Room 1B

Members Present: Representative Emil “Buddy” Altobello, Lorraine Guilmartin, Robert D. Harris, Jr., Sally Martin, Tom Ritter, John Ruffalo, Dr. Walter W. Woodward

Members Not Present: Benny Auger, Sen. Joseph J. Crisco, Jr., Raeanne Curtis, Charles Higgins, William Morgan

Others Present: Angela Cahill, Gerry Caughman, Eric Connery, Liz Conroy, Kim Fabrizio, D’Ann Mazzocca

Chairman Harris called the meeting to order at 10:48 a.m.

Eric Connery addressed the majority of the agenda’s items.

- ◆ **Genius statue** – The Genius is being delivered tomorrow morning. Eric presented photographs taken during the casting. Bob Caroti of ITS will take photographs of the installation. The statue will be delivered via the North Steps entry in three pieces – the body, and each wing. Rep. Altobello commented that the original Genius was also created in three pieces.
- ◆ **Green Capitols** – The EPA is promoting an initiative to “green” the grounds of state capitols, especially the approaches. Although the original potentially available funding consisted of \$250,000 from the federal government with a matching grant from the MDC, the project which is in the design phase now has a value of between 1.5 – 2 million dollars and funding may be available from multiple agencies. Any changes that had involved the City of Hartford’s right-of-way have been removed from the proposal with the exception of Bushnell Park.
 - The project will focus on a rainwater retention and diversion system. Rainwater from the roof and a portion of the driveway will flow downhill to a new storage tank near the cooling tower bunker. The proposed 45,000 gallon tank will handle 90% of the irrigation requirement for the Capitol grounds. The captured water will be utilized for irrigation, resulting in a decrease of the amount of water that is necessary to purchase from MDC. It will be necessary to remove the yews that surround the building and replace them with sections of lawn or native plantings.
 - Rain gardens will be installed at the Capitol Avenue entrance. A second rain garden will be installed near the cannon statue.
 - The non-native apple trees on the south side will be replaced with magnolias which were originally planted on the grounds.
 - Most of the sidewalks will be replaced with porous concrete
 - A portion of the driveway surface would be replaced with porous pavement.The goal is for this project to become a demonstration site for the CT DEP and the EPA for greening projects. Eventually, this project will need to be approved by the Commission and the legislative leaders.
- ◆ **Water stained walls on fourth floor** - We utilized a lift that was on the grounds for another project to examine the dormers. A few areas were determined to be in need of repair. The existing water stained walls are continuing to dry, although they still contain too much moisture to repair.

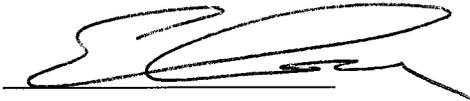
- ◆ Maintenance and upgrade projects in process or recently completed – There are no changes to report. Preventive work continues, and the roof slate repair has been completed.
- ◆ Projects in design or to be scheduled – Projects are not moving forward.
- ◆ Project Checklist update – There have been no changes to the checklist.
- ◆ Projects on hold pending funding – Eric listed the projects on hold, including battle flag conservation, east and west skylight repairs, exterior cleaning and restoration, blast mitigation/window replacement, office lights replacement, elevator interior upgrade, and boiler replacement. The boilers continue to be maintained by a new vendor, and they are running with a fairly high efficiency rate.

Approval of meeting minutes - The September 23, 2009 meeting minutes were approved by acclamation.

New business – Bob Harris stated that the State Library is continuing research regarding the existence of a State Capitol Building cornerstone.

Selecting the date for the next Commission meeting – A mid-to-late March 2010 meeting will be scheduled. Bob Harris said that the Commission would be available to meet earlier if the “Greening Project” necessitated earlier approval.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:22 a.m.



Eric Connery



Elizabeth Conroy