

State Capitol Preservation and Restoration Commission
March 23, 2015
Legislative Office Building

Members Present: Rep. Emil “Buddy” Altobello, Sen. Joseph J. Crisco, Jr., Commissioner Melody A. Currey, Lorraine Guilmartin, Robert D. Harris, Jr., Sally M. Martin, William Morgan, Thomas Ritter, Barry Williams, Dr. Walter W. Woodward

Members Not Present: John Ruffalo

Others Present: Rachel Bishop, Eric Connery, Liz Conroy, Ken Dixon, Jay Drew, Kim Fabrizio, John Harnick, Kelly Pinkham, Jim Tracy

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m.

- ◆ Bob Harris and the Commission welcomed newest member, DAS Commissioner Melody A. Currey.
- ◆ The December 15, 2014 meeting minutes were approved by acclamation.
- ◆ The Commission’s 2014 Annual Report draft was approved by acclamation. Bill Morgan thanked Bob for including some Commission members’ concerns over long-term effects of delayed maintenance projects needed to maintain the condition of the State Capitol. He stressed the importance of the Commission’s role as being a long-term bellwether for the Capitol, even in tough economic times.
- ◆ Bob mentioned that he has confirmed that the copyright of the Monument catalog published for the State Capitol’s Centennial is now held by the CT Historical Society. The new director agreed to the idea of the catalog being reprinted. Bob will bring more details to the next meeting.
- ◆ *Active projects:* Jay Drew updated the Commission on the project list.
 - In the Senate and House Chambers, we are in the process of wire pulls to support CT-N camera upgrades, security camera upgrades, and the installation of additional wireless hubs.
 - We have been working on roof snow removal from the heavy winter storms and have discovered some leaks due to ice damming. We have made temporary repairs to those locations that could be accessed safely. We will investigate damage during the spring inspection.
 - An engineering review of all three flagpoles will be conducted. One of the eagles fell off of the Connecticut west flagpole and sustained damage to the head and one wing. This item, along with the bowing of one of the flagpoles, will be addressed during the study.
- ◆ *Maintenance and upgrade projects:*
 - East-west skylights – Eric Connery stated that the conservation of the panels will go out to bid soon, with the hope of getting them conserved and ready to be installed late fall/early winter of next year.

- Battle flag conservation - Flag of the 18th (the 3rd of the four flags we awarded to Textile Conservation) is nearing completion, and conservation of the 11th Regiment flag will begin shortly. We are working on a proposal for the creation of a display case to be installed at the Capitol end of the Concourse. This case would probably house the 29th and 30th regiment flags for a permanent display as there is a large interest in them. Recently conserved flags would be displayed on a rotating basis in the basement flag case.
- ◆ *Checklist update:* Eric reported that there were no changes to the checklist since last quarter.
- ◆ *Projects in design or to be scheduled:*
 - Boiler replacement - The design is almost complete. The new boilers should be installed for next winter.
 - Wheel chair lifts and ramps - The replacement lifts have been sent out to bid twice, without a successful response. It is difficult finding a vendor capable of meeting current codes. The existing lifts still work with a manual crank. Jay added that part of the challenge is that the work requires a specialty lift installer along with a specialty woodworker.
- ◆ *Projects on hold pending funding:*
 - Bob Harris reported that Dr. Warshauer has completed a solid first draft of the history of the Genius statue and expects the major fundraising plan to be launched early next year. Eric stated that the exterior cleaning and restoration project is a high priority although it remains on hold. He added that there is no feasible solution yet for the office lights replacement or the blast mitigation project. The elevator interior upgrade is fully designed and waiting for funding.
- ◆ *New business:*
 - Donation of the final State flag flown in Iraq in 2011 - House Majority Leader Aresimowicz submitted a letter offering this flag to the Commission. Eric recommended its acceptance, stating that it would be a good addition to the collection. The Commission voted to accept the donation of the flag. Melody Currey reminded the Commission to include the new Commissioner of Veterans' Affairs in any ceremony of acceptance, as he is a veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom.
- ◆ Selecting the date for the next Commission meeting:
 - Bob Harris suggested a mid-to-late June date for the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:21 a.m.


Eric Connery


Elizabeth Conroy