

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

Members Present: Rep. Emil "Buddy" Altobello, Sen. Joseph J. Crisco, Jr., Commissioner Melody A. Currey, Robert D. Harris, Jr., William Morgan, Thomas Ritter, John Ruffalo

Members Not Present: Lorraine Guilmartin, Sally M. Martin, Barry Williams, Dr. Walter W. Woodward

Others Present: David Barkin, Rachel Bishop, Eric Connery, Liz Conroy, Jay Drew, Kim Fabrizio, Liz Ferruggiaro, John Harnick, Tina Mohr, Jim Tracy, Rick Voelker

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m.

- ◆ The March 23, 2015 meeting minutes were approved by acclamation.
- ◆ Bob Harris distributed copies of the Summer 2015 *Connecticut Explored* magazine which includes articles on the Genius and Forlorn Soldier statues, authored by Dr. Matt Warshauer.
- ◆ Bob also updated the Commission on the possible reprinting of *Monument*, the catalog commemorating the centennial exhibition of the State Capitol held at the Old State House in 1979. The Connecticut Historical Society has submitted an approval letter to the Commission, authorizing the reprint. Bob will be meeting with Legislative Management today to discuss permissions needed to reproduce some of the photographs. Ken Wiggin, the State Librarian, has offered to research which photographs may need permissions.
- ◆ *Active projects:* Jay Drew updated the Commission on the project list.
 - LED lighting upgrades - Product selection is underway for sconces and chandeliers in the Hall of Flags, other public areas, and the Senate chamber, along with the Capitol dome exterior accent lighting and the Capitol grounds pole lights.
 - House Chamber plaster repair - One column, including its capital and the crown molding above it, is in need of repair. We are in the process of completing a cost estimate for the work. The damage occurred from roof ice damming during the winter.
 - Concourse display case for 29th and 30th Regiment flags - The preparation work for the platform has been completed. The installation of the glass and hardware should be completed this week.
 - Camera upgrades - The wire pull project for CT-N cameras, security upgrades and wireless hubs continues in the Chambers. The new cabling will follow the existing cable paths.
 - Security upgrade - A new package scanner has been installed in the Hall of Flags to accommodate larger parcels and catering.
 - Capitol roof inspection - The inspection report has been completed and is being evaluated.
 - Capitol skylight leaks - We are awaiting a quote for new laminated, UV filtering glass.
- ◆ *Maintenance and upgrade projects:*
 - East and west skylights required repairs - Eric reported that we are working to finalize the conservation of the skylights. A bond request has been submitted for the reinstallation project.

- The fourth flag to be conserved this year, the 11th Regiment, has been returned. There are more flags to be conserved, pending funding. Gerry Caughman had created a thorough priority list of flags still in need of conservation. Eric added that with the loss of Gerry's vast knowledge, he has a list of contacts with whom he can consult when questions arise.
- ◆ *Checklist update:* Eric reported that there were no changes to the checklist since last quarter.
- ◆ *Projects in design or to be scheduled:*
 - Boiler replacement – We are waiting to finalize the new design which allows for the new boiler to be installed without removing the other boiler.
 - Wheel chair lifts and ramps – There were two unsuccessful requests for proposals for replacing the lifts, but the existing lifts continue to function. The lift that provides wheelchair access to the House floor is running without issue. The lift that brings the chair up to the legislator seating continues to be problematic, but functions with a manual crank.
- ◆ *Projects on hold pending funding:*
 - Genius - Dr. Matt Warshauer is moving forward with the planning stages of a fundraising campaign.
 - Exterior cleaning and restoration – The funding for this project does not appear in the current bond bill.
 - The office lighting, elevator upgrades and blast mitigation projects remain on hold. We do have funding to study the condition of all of the wood window frames.
- ◆ *New business:*
 - Commissioner Currey introduced David Barkin, Chief Architect for the Department of Administrative Services. She added that he is noted for his historic preservation expertise, and will be a tremendous resource for the Commission. Mr. Barkin stated that he is excited to offer his experience as a preservation architect to the Commission.
 - Possible relocation of public entrance from Hall of Flags to the South entrance - The design study is on hold. Bill Morgan asked about the feasibility of adding a visitor's center on the South lawn, allowing for a public entrance leading directly to the underground Concourse. Eric responded that this suggestion had been considered for the long-term plan.
 - Addition of a fourth elevator – A feasibility study is in progress for the addition of an elevator on the west side, to the north of the existing elevator. The 4th floor location of the elevator will pose a design challenge.
- ◆ *Selecting the date for the next Commission meeting:*
 - Bob Harris suggested a mid-to-late September date for the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:24 a.m.



Eric Connery



Elizabeth Conroy