

**State Capitol Preservation and Restoration Commission**  
**September 28, 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, John Ruffalo

Members Not Present: Brian Flaherty, Barry Williams, Dr. Walter W. Woodward

Others Present: David Barkin, 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 June 23, 2015 meeting minutes were approved by acclamation.
- ◆ Reprinting of Monument document update– This document was the catalog produced in 1979 for the centenary celebration of the State Capitol at the Old State House. Bob Harris reported that we have permission from the Connecticut Historical Society to move forward with the project. He is awaiting input regarding the photograph permissions from the Attorney General’s office and Dr. David Park Curry, one of the co-editors of the document.
- ◆ *Active projects:* Jay Drew updated the Commission on the project list.
  - LED lighting upgrades – The retrofitting of the globe fixtures, chandeliers and sconces in the Capitol first floor and stairwells is 80 percent complete. Work continues in these areas and outside the Senate Chamber. Some areas are difficult to access and will require scaffolding. We are removing the old plug-in fluorescent bases that are crumbling as we replace the lamps. The new bulbs should last 7 – 11 years, are more energy efficient and produce cleaner light. The stairways are more brightly lit for safety concerns. The Hall of Flags (public entrance) chandelier will also cast a brighter light. The Capitol dome lighting will be upgraded, which will make the architectural details more evident. We are investigating new technology to improve the lighting in the Capitol offices and will be doing testing with these new bulbs soon. We have also found an LED bulb to use in the 56 exterior pole lights.
  - House Chamber plaster repair – The eastside column repair has been completed by Canning Studios.
  - Concourse display case for 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> Regiment flags – The case has been installed and finish work completed.
  - Camera upgrades – The wire pulls have been completed in the Capitol for the wireless hubs, CTN cameras, and security cameras.
  - Security upgrade – Cabinet heaters have been installed in the East and West Lobbies.

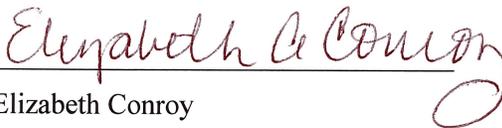
- Flagpole eagles – A purchase order has been approved for 2 gilded eagles. We found a source that uses the original E.G. Washburn patterns. The cost is approximately \$5,000.
- ◆ *Maintenance and upgrade projects:*
  - East and west laylights required repairs – It has been a challenge getting quotes for these repairs. Eric added that we have a drafted RFP to conserve the laylights. It has not been released yet. There are bond funds available for the restoration and a bond fund request pending to re-install the laylights.
- ◆ *Checklist update:*
  - Eric reported that Fletcher Thompson has completed their inventory of the cracked window frames. A visual inspection is now being performed to devise a plan to repair them. These frames are original to the building, not replaced during the Restoration.
  - Bill Morgan suggested we investigate developing a partnership with the CT Public Affairs Network (C-PAN) to assist with the John Canning oral history project and other educational commentaries. Such a relationship could further the mission of the Commission by using alternative media to create a digital history for future generations. The Commission expressed interest in inviting C-PAN and John Canning to an upcoming meeting.
- ◆ *Projects in design or to be scheduled:*
  - Boiler replacement – Eric reported that the design has been completed and an RFP has been drafted. The work will be completed after the next heating season. Rep. Altobello asked what type of heating system originally existed in the Capitol. Eric responded that there were coal-fired units in the boilers' current location. The coal chutes were covered over during the parking lot repaving. The office fireplaces were only used for ventilation. The chimneys have all been capped and are currently used for data cabling.
  - Wheel chair lifts, ramps and elevator upgrades – There is some ADA funding that could assist with the construction of an additional elevator on the west side. When the current elevator is not functioning, there is no access to the 4<sup>th</sup> floor via the east elevators. The design firm has been asked to complete a Scope of Work. We will bundle the funding of this elevator with the additional ramp work needed for Rooms 207A , 310, the Concourse and possibly the Capitol first floor. The total cost is estimated at \$800,000. The elevator interior upgrade is going out to bid. The cost of refinishing the interiors should be approximately \$50,000.
- ◆ *Projects on hold pending funding:*
  - Genius – There was no update on the status of the Genius project.
  - Exterior cleaning and restoration – This project remains necessary. We are not seeing water infiltration from the masonry, but we are from the windows and roofing.
  - Battle Flags – There is no funding in this year's budget for restoration.

- The blast mitigation projects remain on hold.
- ◆ *New business:*
  - Sen. Duff had submitted a request to the Commission to approve the hanging of the CT State Senate Seal outside of his Capitol office. The Commission denied the request.
  - Bob Harris announced that Brian Flaherty had been named to the Commission, appointed by the House Republican Leader, Themis Klarides.
  - Bob extended a farewell to Tom Ritter, thanking him for his years of service on the Commission.
  - The Commission voted to accept a donation from Christine Grulke of Tolland, CT of three saucers bearing the "Connecticut Laurel" design. They will be placed in the Capitol display cases.
- ◆ Selecting the date for the next Commission meeting:
  - Bob Harris suggested an early-to-mid December date for the next meeting.

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



Eric Connery



Elizabeth Conroy