

State Capitol Preservation and Restoration Commission
December 13, 2007
Legislative Office Building – Hearing Room 1B

Members Present: Sen. Joseph Crisco, Commissioner Raeanne Curtis, Lorraine Guilmartin, Robert Harris, Jr., Sally Martin, Thomas Ritter, John Ruffalo

Members Not Present: Rep. Buddy Altobello, Benny Auger, Charles Higgins, Dr. Walter Woodward, Bill Morgan

Others Present: Eric Connery, Liz Conroy, Jill Cromwell, Marguerite Rodney

Robert Harris called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m.

Mr. Harris introduced Raeanne Curtis, Commissioner of the Department of Public Works, the Commission's newest ex-officio member.

Meeting minutes approval

The September 25, 2007 meeting minutes were approved by acclamation.

Eric Connery reviewed the balance of the agenda's items.

Genius of Connecticut laser scanning & casting project

The laser scan of the Genius has been completed. The casting company will take the three-dimensional model and create molds from which the Genius will be cast. The balance of the funding to complete the project needs to be approved by the Bond Commission. We are working with our structural engineers to design the reinforcement plan for the dome. We expect the completed Genius statue to be returned to the dome by the fall of 2008.

Prudence Crandall statue update

The statue is expected to be completed by early summer 2008.

Blast Mitigation

Legislative Management is looking at options for replacing the windows in the Capitol so that the blast mitigation project can be completed. We are writing a Request for Information that will be sent to window manufacturers. They will be required to submit a history of their work in historic buildings. We will select at least one manufacturer to create a full-size window sample. We will present one or more samples for the Commission to approve. The RFI should be posted by the end of January, with a 30-day response deadline.

Project Checklist

- *New camera pole* - The installation of the new camera pole at the highway ramp is complete.
- *Sidewalk repairs* - The repairs are in process and will continue as the weather permits. Additional repairs will begin next year as new cracks appear.
- *Chamber fire sprinklers* - The piping and sprinkler heads are in place for the House Chamber fire sprinklers. Final adjustments will be made to the sprinkler heads and decorative covers will be installed. The scaffolding will come down within two weeks. The balance of the work will occur in the attic or the floor of the Chamber. The Senate Chamber sprinkler installation will not be completed until after Session.

- *Redundant air conditioning unit* - The redundant air conditioning system for the House Chamber will be completely assembled and installed by the start of Session. This system will allow us to cool the Chamber separately on very hot days which will take demands off of the cooling tower. The heating portion of the project will not be completed until after Session. As part of a planned replacement of the boilers, the heat source in the attic will be converted from steam to hot water.
- *Exterior lighting upgrade* - The exterior light pole replacement/upgrade should be completed by the end of December. The work will continue inside the Capitol to control the lighting by a single command point. The grounds clean-up will have to wait until spring.
- *Steam line failure* - The energy network, Hartford Steam, will be responsible for repairing the damage to the grounds at the southwest corner due to a failure of one of their steam lines.
- *Office lighting upgrade* - Marguerite Rodney distributed copies of lighting samples to the Commission members. Test lighting has been installed in a Capitol office to determine light levels, sizing and quality. She explained that the new custom fixtures will be highly energy efficient, produce a lower level of light and will have added decorative touches. Eric added that the change from metal halide to compact fluorescent fixtures will produce a much softer light that will be more appealing at night. The Commission will be able to see an entire office outfitted with the mock-ups prior to voting on moving forward with the project.
- *Capitol boilers replacement* - On very cold days, when the two functioning boilers vent at the same time, gas fumes become trapped between two valves and vent at ground level. These gas fumes enter the Capitol basement and first floor and are very difficult to remove. We are changing the venting of the exhaust pipes from ground level to venting up to the roof through an existing pipe chase. We are going to replace the boilers with several smaller energy-efficient models beginning in the summer. The very few remaining steam heat lines will be converted to hot water and the electric water heaters will be changed to heat exchangers.
- *Internal water staining and gutter problem* - Some staining has occurred above where the gutters were thought to be located. The roofing contractor has identified some problem areas near windows and has re-sealed all of the windows. We are waiting for a heavy rain to check for new areas of staining. The paths of the gutters throughout the building still need to be studied to discern whether or not it is the gutters that are causing the staining.
- *Capitol heat pumps* - 50% of the pumps have been replaced. Controls and occupancy sensors need to be installed and connected to the building management system.
- *Generator fuel tank removal & new tank installation* - This item appears on the Department of Public Works' project list, but Legislative Management is currently completing the project. The underground tank has survived beyond its life expectancy. We have placed an above ground tank in the bunker near the cooling tower. We will transfer fuel to the above ground tank in the spring and remove the underground tank.
- *Elevator paneling upgrade* - The new paneling will be similar to the oak doors on the first floor of the Capitol. We are working on getting the elevator lighting just right to enhance the new paneling.
- *Code compliance review* - The review will be completed next week. A report will be presented at the next Commission meeting.
- *Capitol cleaning & restoration RFP* - The request has been sent out for bid again. Sub-contractors doing more than \$500,000 of business with the State as of October 1, 2007 are required to be pre-registered with the Department of Administrative Services. The initial bids were rejected because this requirement was not being met. We are contacting over 160 vendors to notify them that they also need to be registered with DAS to receive RFP notifications. We found that the initial RFP may have been costing us money because of the schedule we imposed. In the new RFP we are asking vendors to submit their own timeline. The new RFP is due 1/31/08. The restoration will now continue through two sessions.

Additional Schoenhardt recommendations

- The preservation of restoration-era drawings, the conservation of the Upjohn drawing, and the oral history project with John Canning will be undertaken when Schoenhardt has completed some of their current projects.
- Additional de-lamination of the Senate Chamber galleries' canvas has not occurred. Three different contractors applied canvas to the Capitol walls during the Restoration. Only the work of the contractor that completed the Senate Chamber failed. We continue to monitor the areas for deterioration.
- Today we have a consultant in the building to assess the condition of the stained glass windows in the building, as well as the Old Judiciary Room skylight.
- We have a design created for the dome lighting, but we will modify the plan when the Genius returns to the top of the dome.
- We will work with the company that laser-scanned the Genius to create duplicates of some of the missing water fountain hardware and missing doorknobs throughout the Capitol. We will create a list of items during the summer for which we would like a duplicate made or a digital record created.
- We have not yet completed the investigation of the Governor's office original paint scheme.
- The repair of the Columbus Urn in the House Chamber lobby has not begun.
- The cleaning of the Senate Chamber mahogany doors will begin next summer.
- The Senate Chamber gallery carpet seams have been repaired, and we plan to replace this carpet next summer. The House Chamber carpet will also need to be replaced in the next two years.

The Commission agreed that the next meeting date would be set for March.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:52 a.m.


Eric Connery


Elizabeth Conroy