

**State Capitol Preservation and Restoration Commission**  
**September 22, 2010**  
**Legislative Office Building - Hearing Room 1B**

Members Present: Rep. Emil "Buddy" Altobello, Robert D. Harris, Jr., Sally Martin, William Morgan, John Ruffalo, Barry Williams

Members Not Present: Benny Auger, Sen. Joseph Crisco, Jr., Raeanne Curtis, Lorraine Guilmartin, Thomas Ritter, Walter W. Woodward

Others Present: Kim Fabrizio, Eric Connery, Ken Dixon, Jay Drew

Chairman Harris called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

- ◆ He welcomed Barry Williams, the newest Commission member appointed by Speaker Donovan, filling the spot previously held by Charlie Higgins.
- ◆ Chairman Harris also mentioned an amendment to the State Capitol Preservation & Restoration Commission statute from the 2010 Legislative Session which allows the Commissioner of the Department of Public Works to appoint a designee to attend the Commission meetings if the DPW Commissioner cannot attend.
- ◆ The June 16, 2010 meeting minutes were approved by acclamation.

Jay Drew addressed the majority of the agenda's items.

- ◆ Green Capitols - Jay Drew stated that the Green Capitols project has begun, and he presented photos of the ongoing work. The contractor is Laydon Industries. They are ahead of the original schedule despite a late start, and they are in the process of installing the permeable sidewalk pavers around the building. The East side will be the last location to be completed. Additionally, on the east side, a 6,000-gallon cistern will be installed to capture rainwater from the southeast portion of the roof and will be used to irrigate the flower beds. The installation of the permeable asphalt portion of the project has begun as well. It involves excavating 20-inches of the existing surface, installing a 4-inch crushed stone bed, a binder course, and then the 4-inch permeable asphalt. The project will allow the water to return to the water table.

The project began at the sidewalk at the west entrance, will proceed to the large area on the north side, then move around to the walkway to the parking lot, and to the east sidewalk. It will not cover the midblock walkway to Trinity. It will proceed to the corner of Trinity and Capitol, and continue around the building, ending at the south portico. The pavement area beginning at the south flower bed area across to the portico will consist of permeable pavers, and by their contrast to the existing pavement, will indicate that this area is a walkway. The storm water from this area will be directed to three rain gardens. One garden will be located at the statue midway down the walkway towards Trinity, and one will be placed at each side of the Capitol Avenue entrance. The other portion of the project consists of a rain garden installed over the boiler room roof. Several varieties of cedum have been planted there.

Jay also mentioned that we will be trained on the requirements for maintaining the new materials. The concrete aggregate mix contains voids which causes the stormwater to be absorbed. These voids lower the compressive strength of the material, but we should be able to drive a ¾ ton pick up truck over the material. We have been advised that the use of melting chemicals will be limited and sanding would be discouraged. Just as we treat snow removal on the garage roof, a rubber plow blade would be needed for snow removal on these permeable surfaces. Eric Connery added that certain snow melt products can be used and the goal is for the water to permeate into the ground rather than pond on the surface. He will track the slip and fall statistics over the next year and report his findings to the Commission. Jay added that statistics show that 400 gallons of water per hour per one square foot will permeate the surface. After the formal maintenance training is received, Jay will report to the Commission with details.

Eric Connery added that DEP wanted to use many different techniques at the Capitol so that when municipalities request Clean Water funds, they can visit one central location that demonstrates the variety of techniques. Jay Drew added that there are a large number of people working on this project. The contractor's goal is to have as many of their workers become certified as technicians and installers for these various methods and materials. John Ruffalo asked for an explanation regarding the warranty for the labor and products as these are relatively new materials for the contractor. Jay responded that there is a standard one-year warranty on the sod and plantings, and a two-year warranty on the asphalt and concrete products. The area that was completed on the first day of the project will be redone. The contractor had problems because of the high temperature that day. The mix began to bind too quickly.

Rep. Altobello requested a clarification of the wording of the "Green Capitols" sign on the Capitol grounds. Eric Connery explained that half of the funding comes from Clean Water Funds from DEP. The other half of the funding is provided by a matching grant from MDC. Currently, MDC's Hartford storm water and sewer systems are combined. They are under requirement to rebuild this system to separate out the storm water system from the sewage system. Every drop of storm water that MDC can redirect back into the ground rather than having it reach their system will eventually save them money.

- ◆ Water stained walls on fourth floor - Jay Drew stated that moisture continues to be present on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor. The fall roof inspection is coming up during which time we will look at the attachment points of the snow guards to see if there is any leakage.
- ◆ Maintenance & upgrade projects in process or recently completed - The east skylight wood patch is failing. The patch has been in place for two years, since a falling ice block caused damage. The glass contractor reported that the building code no longer allows chicken wire glass to be installed in a horizontal position. He can provide a laminated glass that has the similar milky appearance of the existing glass. It should appear consistent with the existing glass. We hope to move forward with this repair in the near future.
- ◆ Lighting - We relamped the fixtures outside the Senate Chamber behind the New Haven city seal and the Hartford city seal with energy-efficient fluorescent bulbs. This change reduced the wattage by 80% and the number of bulbs by half, from 100-watt bulbs to half as many 20-watt bulbs. We are also considering relamping the inside of the dome, replacing the twelve 500-watt lamps with 150-watt lamps that should cast a more even light.

- ◆ **Basement Leaks** - We have found that the leaks in Room 011 and 014 were caused by exterior grading at the foundation that was actually trapping water. We are regrading areas, creating swales away from the foundation. This work is being done as part of the Green Capitols project.
- ◆ **Projects on hold pending funding** - All pending projects are on hold. Eric Connery distributed an updated 21-point checklist. He stated that there are no projects in design due to the lack of funding and that all pending projects are on hold. Bob Harris asked about the status of the Old Judiciary skylight. Eric Connery said that the investigation would involve building scaffolding which we do have. He would check with Guardian Services to see if there would be manpower available to investigate options, although they are busy doing routine maintenance that previously was performed by other outside contractors.
- ◆ **New Business** - Eric Connery unveiled the Commission website created by ITS and asked for the Commission's review of it prior to the website going live.
- ◆ **Selecting the date for the next Commission meeting** - Bob Harris suggested an early December date.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:50 p.m. and was followed by a Commission member tour of the Green Capitols project led by Jay Drew.



Eric Connery



Elizabeth Conroy