

CAPITOL HILL RESTORATION SOCIETY BOARD MEETING
MINUTES FOR JANUARY 17, 2012
SECOND FLOOR BOARD ROOM, CAPITOL HILL TOWNHOMES COMMUNITY BUILDING

Present

Beth Purcell, Shauna Holmes, Janet Quigley, Sharon Weiss, Elizabeth Nelson, Nancy Metzger, Paul Cromwell, Maurice Walters, Drury Tallant, Chuck Burger, Barbara Eck, Gary Peterson, Monte Edwards, Lisa Dale Jones, Kelly Vielmo, Gloria Junge

Observer: Larry Janezich

Meeting Minutes – Janet Quigley

- The minutes of the December 17th meeting were included in the monthly meeting packet. **Moved, Seconded and Approved:** A motion to approve the December minutes passed on voice vote.

Financial Report - Sharon Weiss

- A report was included in the monthly meeting packet that included the balance sheet as of 12/31/2011, income statement for December broken out by committee, and December check register. Monte noted that the Committee of 100 owes CHRS \$500 for a share of the cost of drawings for the Air Rights project.

President's Report – Beth Purcell

- **Moved, seconded and approved:** A motion to form an election committee consisting of Paul Cromwell, Gary Peterson, Elizabeth Nelson and Beth Purcell passed on voice vote.
- The 2012 application for CFC participation was filed.

House Tour / Web Site – Paul Cromwell

- Ticket sales needs volunteers. A signup sheet has been created in Google docs.
- Chuck Burger volunteered to set up the ticket sales tent.
- The web site needs new material. Please forward information on activities.
- Previous house tour brochures are being added.

Streetcars / Permit Process – Drury Tallant

- The December 20, 2011 DDoT meeting addressed routing issues at the western end of H Street. The proposed raised platform will preclude left turns from H Street. The plan also would reduce bridge traffic to two lanes in each direction.
- DCRA's postcard permit process for interior work excludes the historic district, increasing fees and scope of work for residents. **Moved, seconded and approved** unanimously: Dru was authorized to research potential solutions for permitting of interior work in the historic district, to include a Historic Preservation Office staff signoff.

Metro Plaza Hub – Chuck Burger

- A "sign tiger" committee may be formed to address signage around the plaza. An MOU and landscaping are being researched.

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Historic Preservation – Nancy Metzger and Shauna Holmes

- **Verizon Graphics Act:** DC City Council is considering an act that would allow the Verizon Center to have nine large electric signs, but also could impact historic districts and landmarks. The Historic District Coalition is sending a letter to Council opposing the act and expressing concerns. **Moved, seconded and approved:** A motion for CHRS to sign onto the HDC letter and forward it to Council Member Tommy Wells asking for his support of the letter's opposition to the act. 10 in favor, 2 opposed.
- **700 Constitution Ave., NE** (old MedLink Hospital): IBG appeared at the committee with preliminary information regarding their project to restore the exterior and convert the 1928 and 1956 buildings to 144 apartments. They agreed to return to the February meeting with more complete plans including a site plan. In a related issue, the owner of the square is out of compliance with BZA Order 17043 regarding parking quotas. Shauna agreed to send the plans to Gary Peterson, Zoning chair.
- **1003 8th Street, SE:** A raze permit has been filed for the Miles Glass building, a 1960's building at the corner of 8th Street and Virginia Avenue, SE. Directly to the south of the Miles Glass building is a four-story brick building that dates to the 1820's, one of the oldest buildings in the Navy Yard extension area. The owner has agreed to exercise special care during the demolition of the Miles Glass building and to erect bollards along the north wall of the historic building to protect it from damage until a new project is developed.
- **HPRB Roundtable January 18:** Tommy Wells will hold a public session to review nominees for HPRB. CHRS approved support of the nomination of Nancy Metzger in 2011. Shauna Holmes will speak on her behalf at the roundtable.

Transportation – Shauna Holmes

- Shauna attended a DDoT meeting on January 9 regarding the M Street SE/SW Transportation Study. Shauna called attention to intersections near the 11th Street Bridge that were identified in the 11th Street Bridges FEIS July 2009 Re-Evaluation as expected to reach worse levels of service than predicted in the FEIS. During the EIS study, CHRS had continued to tell DDOT that their predicted levels of service were too high, but DDOT did not listen; then the Re-Evaluation proved CHRS to have been correct. Feedback for the M Street SE/SW study can be submitted through the DDoT web link.
- CHRS sent a letter to FHWA on January 13, 2012 accepting consulting party status in Section 106 review of the Virginia Avenue Tunnel (VAT) project and recommending ten neighborhood organizations for inclusion.

Executive Session - The Board went into executive session to discuss two matters.

- **Virginia Avenue Tunnel:** **Moved, seconded and approved:** A motion to send a letter to FHWA providing preliminary comments regarding the 11 proposed concepts. 11 in favor, 1 abstention.
- **1310 East Capitol, NE:** Raze application by Church of God regarding a stable. **Moved, seconded and approved** unanimously: A motion to authorize Shauna

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Holmes to participate on behalf of CHRS in the Mayor's Agent hearing on the matter involving 1310 East Capitol Street.

Zoning – Gary Peterson

- A report was included in the packet. The committee supported four cases: 658 E Street, NE; 425 8th Street, SE; 541 14th St, SE; and 1439 East Capitol Street, SE.
- **Hine School PUD: Moved, seconded and approved** unanimously: A motion authorizing Gary Peterson to file for party status on behalf of CHRS.

Beyond the Boundaries – Donna Hanousek

- Traceries is working on two projects per their contracts: an H Street nomination document (expected in May) and a Context Study for greater Capitol Hill (expected June/July). A committee has been formed to review the context study.

Newsletter – Lisa Dale Jones and Kelly Vielmo

- CSX/VAT, Streetcars, Hine PUD, MedLink Development, Audubon Christmas bird count; March membership meeting, call for board candidates, minutes now on web site.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:55 PM.

The next scheduled Board Meeting is February 21, 2012.