

**CAPITOL HILL RESTORATION SOCIETY BOARD MEETING  
MINUTES FOR MAY 15, 2012**

SECOND FLOOR BOARD ROOM, CAPITOL HILL TOWNHOMES COMMUNITY BUILDING

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**Present**

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

**Meeting Minutes** – Janet Quigley

- The minutes of the April 17th meeting were included in the monthly meeting packet.  
**Moved, Seconded and Approved:** A motion to approve the April 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 4/30/2012, income statement for April broken out by committee, and April check register.
- The 2011 audit was distributed. CHRS was rated “unqualified” which is favorable. Administrative expenses are below 10%, which will look good for the CFC campaign.
- Contributions of more than \$1,000 have been received in support of the 700 A St., NE legal expenses for CHCSD. A separate fund has been established for the contributions.
- **Moved, Seconded and Approved:** A motion to grant the Treasurer read-only access to the bank account passed on voice vote.

**President’s Report** – Beth Purcell

- Shauna Holmes will testify at the May 18, 2012 Mayor’s Agent hearing to about the permit application to remove the stained glass windows from the contributing structure at 700 A St., NE.
- The summer membership forum will take place June 4, 2012 at the Hill Center. Topic: Hine School redevelopment project.
- Ballots for CHRS elections will be mailed to members May 5.

**House Tour** – Paul Cromwell

- House tour was well attended. Many tickets were sold the weekend of the tour.
- Next year’s tour will continue the selection of houses on a geographically concentrated area.

**Historic Preservation** – Shauna Holmes

- The DC Preservation League and CHRS will co-host a Historic House Toolbox contractor fair on June 9 from 10 am to 1 pm.
- Stuart Hobson Middle School will hold a public meeting in June to discuss its interior renovation and addition. It is undergoing a Section 9b historic preservation review with SHPO and HPRB. They are expected to present their plan for an addition and other exterior changes this summer.
- Northeast Library addition (HPA #12-303). Architect David Bell returned to the committee to discuss interior renovations and the 9B review.
- The committee will oppose an application from Yarmouth Realty for a large digital box sign which would violate DC signage regulations.

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- Shauna provided copies of her testimony on Hine at HPRB and request for party status in the Mayor's Agent review of the 700 A St., NE case.
- The DC Historic Preservation Awards will be held June 21.
- Virginia Avenue Tunnel – FHWA has decided to do a full-scale EIS, which CHRS advocated for in the October 2011 scoping letter. On May 21 there will be a scoping meeting in the afternoon and a presentation of alternatives at Nationals ball park in the evening.
- DDoT Cultural Resource report – DDoT briefed Shauna Holmes (on behalf of CHRS) on May 9 about the Historic Preservation and Cultural Resource Report it is preparing for Phase 2 of the H Street/Benning Road streetcar line. CHRS views H Street NE as eligible for the National Register. Some of the new light poles on H and Benning will be removed and replaced to accommodate overhead arms for the streetcar wires. DDoT's plans to install equipment along the streetcar line and build a Car Barn and Training Center on the Spingarn campus beside Benning Road will receive a 9B review by SHPO. During that process, SHPO will determine if Spingarn is eligible for the National Register

### Zoning – Gary Peterson

- Fragers application to BZA for variance from R-4 use – The neighbors have signed an agreement to support. The committee will support.
- Hine School Redevelopment – The HPRB adopted the HPO staff report recommending approval of the project. EMMCA and ANC 6B agreed with CHRS's letter to HPRB. The Zoning Commission meeting is June 14.

### Community Development – Monte Edwards

- Met with Carl Jackson, the new DDoT head of the streetcar project.
- DDoT is preparing a Historic Preservation and Cultural Resource Report for the Section 9b historic preservation review of the H Street/Benning Road streetcar route's Phase 2 work. DDoT has found information online from the H Street survey that was done by Traceries several years ago. DDoT will conduct a similar survey of the Benning Road portion of the streetcar route. Monte requested they share whatever they learn on Benning Road with the public.
- Spingarn Car Barn Plan – is proposed to be 15,000 square feet. Will have many visible overhead wires and sidings; not attractive from the road.
- Virginia Avenue Tunnel – Testified at the Council Transportation and OP budget hearings. Described the transportation bottleneck that will move from the VAT to the Long Bridge when the volume of CSX trains increases. DDoT has received \$3 million to do a study on the Long Bridge.

### Newsletter – Lisa Dale Jones

- Articles for the June edition: Preservation Café, President's Column, Outgoing Members, House Tour wrap, VAT, Fragers, Hine Zoning Commission, 700 A Street testimony and call for donations, historic preservation briefs, 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade - volunteers needed.

### Calendar

May 16 Preservation Café: Wicked Capitol Hill

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May 19 Peter Bug Parade

June 6 Committee of 100 Visions Awards dinner. Hill Center is a recipient.

June 10 President's Party

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm. The next scheduled Board Meeting is June 19, 2012.