

**CAPITOL HILL RESTORATION SOCIETY BOARD MEETING**  
**MINUTES FOR APRIL 21, 2015**  
SECOND FLOOR BOARD ROOM, CAPITOL HILL TOWNHOMES COMMUNITY BUILDING

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**Present**

Lisa Dale Jones, Monte Edwards, Drury Tallant, Susan Burgerman, Patrick Crowley, Chuck Burger, Jim Taylor, Beth Purcell, Elizabeth Nelson, Greg Holeyman, Carl Spier

**Meeting Minutes:** Susan Burgerman

- The minutes of the March 17 meeting were not included in the monthly meeting packet, owing to an email glitch. Approval of the March minutes pending.

**Treasurer's Report** – Patrick Crowley (in packet)

- Funds to cover expenses associated with the March 27 Wolf Lecture were transferred from the Dick Wolf Fund to reimburse the general operating account. There was some discussion of whether and how to invest the balance remaining in the Wolf Fund, rather than leave them in a non-interest bearing account.
- The A Street fund was closed, and the balance of \$60.00 was transferred to general savings.
- Discussion of what to do with funds leftover from the Smart Settlements project, now closed. The funds are in a restricted account. No decision was made.
- Ad sales for the House Tour have been very successful, although the income does not yet appear on the financial statement. To date, costs for the House Tour = \$855.
- It was noted that the expenses shown on the statement for the Dick Wolf Lecture (\$5015) are inaccurate. Apparently the bookkeeper had inadvertently entered payment for Hill Rag general ads to the Lecture line. This will be corrected.

**President's Report** – Lisa Dale Jones (in packet)

- The Wolf Lecture was a resounding success, standing room only. Photos and an audio transcript are up on the website. Lisa suggested that the Board consider raising funds for next year's event, rather than relying solely on the Fund.
- Board nominations: the committee has done a great job of recruiting new members. The bios of all nominees have already been sent to Board members by email. **Motion** to ratify the full slate of candidates: **seconded, approved unanimously.**
- Committee of 100 Vision Awards: On behalf of the Board, Lisa sent two letters of support, for Kim Williams and Kim Elliott of HPO, and for EMCAC.
- DC Preservation League: Lisa and Gary will be meeting with the President and Executive Director of DCPL to discuss zoning issues and potential joint operations.
- Volunteer Day at Hill Center: CHRS will have a booth, although it is probably too late to recruit House Tour volunteers. Event organizers see this as, in part, an opportunity for high school students to get in their community service hours before the school year ends – not something that CHRS is in a position to offer.
- Fundraising: Membership fees and the House Tour are CHRS's only fundraising activities. Once the House Tour is over, Board members should begin to think about donation packages and perhaps planned giving.

- June Members' Meeting: Stephen Ayers, Architect of the Capitol, has been invited to speak, probably about the work being done on the dome. Community Church on Barracks Row would be a good location, and they would only charge \$200-\$300.

### House Tour Committee – Patrick Crowley

- One of the tour houses dropped out this morning, but one of the real estate agents working on the tour offered to fill the gap with one of his properties.
- Overall shortage of volunteers this year: fewer real estate agents than usual have volunteered as house captains. The tour is still short 3-5 house captains. About 250 docents will be needed over the weekend, and so far around 20 have volunteered. Fortunately, DAR volunteers will be serving the refreshments at St James, and docenting at the rectory. Lisa will send an email to the members list requesting volunteers; responses should be sent to Carl, who will compile a list.
- The list of houses is up on the website.
- The homeowners' reception will be held at Patrick's house; he has produced a CHRS coffee cup for a thank you gift.
- Membership forms will be handed out with the tickets at point of sale.
- Andrew Lightman has offered to serve as advertising agent for next year's House Tour.

### Historic Preservation – Beth Purcell

- New Marine Corps Barracks: USMC has finished their Draft Environmental Impact Statement; comment period ends May 26. They are still considering two Historic District sites (A and B) that would be seriously compromised by a decision to build on them. The other three are on federal property, although one, site C, is in a rapidly-developing area on M St SE that already has a grocery store under development. Putting a security zone on that site would almost certainly kill development around it. **Motion** to support building the new Bachelor Enlisted Quarters on sites C, D, or E and to recommend against building on sites A or B **approved**.
- DDOT triangle parks regulations: CHRS recommendations were incorporated into the new regulation proposal. Another minor problem has come up – Res 266 is an odd shape (quadrangular) and the owners could argue that it isn't a triangle and therefore not covered under the new access regulations. Beth suggested sending DDOT a letter recommending that Res 266 be included on their list of examples of triangle parks. **Moved, seconded, approved unanimously**.
- DDOT proposed regulations on signage in entertainment areas: DDOT's proposal would allow huge outdoor electronic signs of the kind presently only permitted in Gallery Place to be installed anywhere that the mayor recognizes as a venue for events or entertainment. This would almost certainly have a negative effect on residents in blocks surrounding H St/Atlas District. Comment period ends May 15. CHRS is coordinating with C100 to oppose the new regulations. Chuck recommends requesting an extension of comment period in order to organize a strong opposition, necessary given how far along DDOT is with the proposal process. Arguments against: the definition of "entertainment area" is underspecified and arbitrary; this should not be a DDOT issue, it concerns land use and zoning. Monte and Beth have already testified thus before Mary Cheh.

### Swampoodle Historic District Update – Drury Tallant

- The HPRB hearing on extending the Historic District to include Swampoodle will be held tomorrow afternoon. The ANC supports the proposal. Those opposed argue that living under HD regulations would be

onerous, and that there has not been sufficient notice or community hearings – despite four years of flyering and meetings. If the HPRB approves, the change would go into effect immediately.

**CSX Update** – Monte Edwards

- All parties are currently awaiting the decision of the US Court of Appeals for DC concerning the C100's appeal of the District Court's decision to deny the Preliminary Injunction that C100 had requested late last year.

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 8:15pm