

CAPITOL HILL RESTORATION SOCIETY BOARD MEETING
MINUTES FOR NOVEMBER 19, 2013
SECOND FLOOR BOARD ROOM, CAPITOL HILL TOWNHOMES COMMUNITY BUILDING

Present

Janet Quigley, Shauna Holmes, Patrick Crowley, Paul Cromwell, Beth Purcell, Elizabeth Nelson, Drury Tallant, Maurice Walters, Susan Young, Undine Nash, Monte Edwards (after NCPC meeting), Larry Pearl, Lisa Wilson, Susan Burgerman, Gloria Junge

Meeting Minutes: Susan Burgerman

- The minutes of the October 2013 meeting were included in the monthly meeting packet. **Moved, Seconded and Approved:** A motion to approve the October minutes. Unanimous.

President's Report – Janet Quigley (included in packet)

- New Communication Chair: Appointment of Susan Burgerman was moved, seconded, and approved. She will be meeting with any other members who express an interest to form a committee.
- Swampoodle Grants: CHRS offering a grants program appears to be generating good will in the community.
- Cherry Blossom Festival: Organizers have inquired about CHRS participating. We could offer a tour of Stanton Park during the festival, to introduce visitors to cherry trees beyond the Tidal Basin. Janet will follow up.
- Capitol Hill Village: They have requested that CHRS donate by advertising in the annual holiday gala brochure. The event will be on January 25 at Hill Center. CHV purchased a \$250 ad in the House Tour brochure and has organized volunteers for tours in the past, so this would be a chance to reciprocate. Elizabeth recommended contributing in kind by donating House Tour tickets to be used at the gala silent action.
Decided: CHRS will donate four tickets specifically earmarked for the silent auction, plus \$100 in cash with thanks in gala brochure.
- Office Manager: Gloria will stay on until a new board takes office next June, unless a great candidate appears, in which case she will stay long enough to bring the new manager up to speed. Paul/Budget Committee will administer the search.

Financial Report – Patrick Crowley

- The transition to the new chart of accounts is complete, with some anomalies. Since no one knows what the Property and Equipment line on the old Balance Sheet is, Patrick will retire the account.
- Regarding the restricted accounts: the grants line has been compiled under the former system and needs to be disaggregated.
- The Swampoodle program includes a \$20,000 administration line, this should be listed separately from the actual grant funds, and expenditures against it should be tracked. The administration line is also restricted but Patrick thinks that there might be some flexibility in how it is used.

House Tour: – Susan Young

- Having trouble getting commitments from the desired area (3rd to 8th between Constitution and Independence, including the Folger), may have to redesign the boundaries. Undine suggested the nicely

renovated condo building at 5th and E Capitol. Susan expressed an interest in a building at 6th and Constitution.

- Volunteers needed, although commitments on houses are the highest priority.
- Susan is also hoping for contributions from private donors. Gloria, Beth, and Janet will meet with her regarding successful fundraising activities from the past.

Swampoodle Grants – Larry Pearl

- Elizabeth recommended that all grantees receive copies of the CHRS historic district guidelines.
- Decision to approve the grants committee's recommendations: moved, seconded, and unanimously approved.
- Beth and Elizabeth requested that grantees provide good before and after photos for the newsletter, as well as for the funder. Dru will take care of this.
- Gloria recommended that a flyer be created for the neighborhood that publicizes the approved grants and reiterates proposal deadlines.
- Elizabeth requested that a brief article outlining the grant's purpose and application process, also including photos, be submitted to the Hill Rag for December or January. Susan will do this.

City Planning – Monte Edwards

- Monte, who had just come from the NCPC Height Act public hearing, described the hearing and its outcome, which was essentially favorable to CHRS's position.
- Discussion of another newsletter article on Eastern Market upgrades, including window film and brownstone preservation. Elizabeth suggested that an article on all Eastern Market upgrades be submitted to Hill Rag.
- Update on VAT and Rep. Norton's press release: she will hold a community meeting on the matter at the Capper Senior Center on Saturday, November 23.

Zoning – Gary Peterson (in absentia)

“Hearings on the new regulations went as expected. Next step is up to the zoning commission. I expect something early next year. We have two cases for the Dec. docket.”

Historic Preservation: –Shauna Holmes (in packet)

- HPRB activities are slowing down a bit, from ten cases in October to six in November. Several proposals are for garage projects.
- Marine Barracks new site scoping comments: many issues were presented in the letter sent by Janet to the Marine Barracks Project Manager on October 25 (in packet).
- Ben's Chili Bowl on H St NE: The Ali family bought two buildings around 11th and H. They submitted a renovation request DCRA, but the developer went ahead and razed both buildings before the city responded. DCRA granted a permit post hoc, despite the clear intent of the H St Overlay Plan to maintain original facades. Dru recommended issuing a challenge letter to DCRA to highlight the consequences of ignoring the Historic Overlay. Elizabeth suggested running the letter and photos of the demolished site in Hill Rag, as a shaming measure.
- Pocket Parks: DDOT's reply to CHRS objections to private use of public land was that no one violated anything, the triangle parks are considered "parking," not public lands. Monte recommended sending a

letter to the Attorney General's Office requesting a legal interpretation. Decision: such a request should come from the ANC.

Newsletter – Janet Quigley (Lisa Dale Jones and Kelly Vielmo both unable to attend)

- Announcement of the Capitol Hill Gala in Coming Events
- Update on the Height Act: Monte Edwards
- Brief piece on House Tour: Susan Young
- Article on recent developments in the VAT controversy: Monte Edwards
- Article on Rosedale Walking Tour: Donna Hanousek
- Preservation Cafe: Elizabeth Nelson
- Swampoodle Grants brief article: Susan Burgerman

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:30pm