

Capitol Hill Restoration Society Board Meeting

Minutes for January 15, 2019

Capitol Hill Townhomes Community Building, 750 6th Street SE, Washington, DC

Members Present

Beth Hague, Tina May, Susan Oursler, Beth Purcell, Gary Peterson, Monte Edwards, Joanna Kendig, Elizabeth Nelson, Undine Nash, Angie Schmidt, Maygene Daniels, Jim Thackaberry,

Members Absent

Janet Quigley, Patrick Lally, Chuck Burger, Susan Burgerman, Michelle Carroll, Lisa Dale Jones, Nina Tristani,

Also present

Jill Cullinane

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 PM.

Minutes

The December minutes were read and reviewed. Several amendments were made to the minutes. Beth Purcell moved to approve the amended minutes and Maygene Daniels seconded. Minutes were approved as amended.

Treasurer's Report Jill Cullinane presented the report.

Jill presented the treasurer's report and answered questions from board members. Report was accepted by the board.

President's Report Elizabeth Nelson

Elizabeth presented the House Tour report on behalf of Janet Quigley who was absent. Janet submitted a copy of her report which Elizabeth presented and the board discussed. The upcoming tour will focus on the area south of Lincoln Park. No houses have been selected yet but there are five houses currently being considered.

Elizabeth discussed the schedule of membership meetings for this year. One will immediately precede the Dick Wolfe Lecture on March 29. Another will be held in June at which the results of the election will be announced. There will be a third sometime in the fall. Susan Burgerman, Membership Chair, will make the arrangements. Those with ideas on speakers can contact her directly.

Elizabeth stated that planning for future Preservation Cafes is in flux at the moment. There is currently no chair of the environment committee; the person occupying this seat has been responsible in the recent past for running the Cafe series. There is also a problem with securing a venue. Most recently the Preservation cafes have been held at the Northeast Branch Library. However, the scheduling system has changed with a change in leadership. Rooms must now be scheduled through the Library website

and reservations can't be made more than two months in advance – which will make it extremely difficult to select dates and confirm speakers with sufficient time for proper advertising. No cafes are scheduled or being planned this spring.

Dick Wolf Lecture Monte Edwards

Eight invitations were sent out to potential lecture presenters. As of the time of this meeting, only two proposals had been submitted. Monte wanted to wait another several days to try to see if more proposals might be submitted.

Swampoodle Grants Patrick Lally absent – no report given

Historic Preservation Report Beth Purcell, Jim Thackaberry

Three major cases scheduled for the January HPRB hearing agenda

201 8th Street NE - summarized by Jim Thackaberry.

Redevelopment of old nursing quarters/apartment building at corner of 8th Street and Constitution Avenue NE. Old nursing quarters being redeveloped as five large condominiums entering by way of new entrance off Constitution Avenue. A new four unit condominium building with center court entrance being built on old existing parking lot. Three parking spaces being provided for the nine units. CHRS supports project.

121 7th Street SE - summarized by Beth Purcell

Existing non-contributing Linde townhouse that is being renovated and expanded by right. The existing parapet is being preserved and a third floor dormer being built up from that parapet. There is a potential light and air situation for a dwelling on Brown's Court located directly behind and adjacent to this project. CHRS supports the project.

302 South Carolina Avenue SE – summarized by Beth Purcell

This is the first pop addition to a long row of intact townhouses. The project is the second house from the corner and any rear additions will be very visible from the public space. CHRS is opposing the addition because the applicant has ignored specific directions from HPRB to only add screened porches.

Southeast Branch Library - Beth Purcell

The landmark application for the Southeast Branch Library was accepted for filing by the HPRB.

Zoning Report - Gary Peterson

Gary reported on five zoning cases

434 4th Street NE - case involves small penthouse to enclose circular stairs to rooftop deck. Committee voted to support special exception.

1322 D Street SE - one of the abutting neighbors objects to the proposed 20 foot addition. The applicant and neighbor are working out a solution. Committee voted to delay a decision until next month's zoning meeting while a solution is found.

1511 A Street NE - this a reworked new application for the property that proposes to subdivide the Property into three sixteen foot wide lots and build 3 two unit flats. Committee liked the new proposal and voted to support the application provided the applicant gets their appeal dismissed of the dismissal of the Building permit application for the previous proposal.

913 7th Street NE – applicant wants to make excessively large addition to existing townhouse. Committee believed additions was excessively damaging to neighbor’s sunlight and voted to oppose the application.

156 Duddington Place SE - applicant proposed to make one story addition in dogleg. Committee did not believe the applicant was qualified for the variance but voted to take no position and didn’t send letter to BZA.

801 – 811 C Street SE public space - Undine Nash

Owners of these properties are living in townhouses that all have their garages enclosed and reused for rooms. The owners are now parking their cars in the public space in front of their houses with their cars often protruding across the sidewalk. There was discussion of the best strategy for taking action to get the owners to stop the illegal parking.

Little League - Angie Schmidt

Angie reported that we need a name for the team CHRS is going to have in the Little League. The names has to end with “-Nats”. Some research is needed on logos that will be allowed. If a logo is allowed, that will give more flexibility on the name. The Board agreed that, if a decision must be made quickly especially if logos are not allowed, the name to be submitted is Restoration Nats.

Newsletter – Angie Schmidt

Angie presented the Spring 2019 publishing schedule. The April issue is the big selling issue for the upcoming House Tour and the May issue is used for the further selling of the House Tour. There was discussion of the submission deadline for the May issue and it was decided to stick with the current Easter weekend submission deadline. A final check was made on the articles going in the upcoming February issue.

New Business - Union Station EIS

A further CHRS meeting with the team preparing the EIS on the particular elements of the EIS is needed in the next month. The meeting needs to be on a date that Dru Tallent and Charles McMillion can attend.

Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Susan Oursler and seconded by Undine Nash. Meeting was adjourned at 8:23 PM.

