

Capitol Hill Restoration Society Board Meeting

Minutes for November 19, 2019

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

Members Present

Christine Mullins, Elizabeth Nelson, Susan Oursler, Beth Purcell, Jim Thackaberry, Joanna Kendig, Gary Peterson, Maygene Daniels, Angie Schmidt, Chuck Burger, Patrick Lally, Alison Ross, Tina May

Members Absent

Undine Nash, Monte Edwards, Nina Tristani, Beth Hague

Others Present

Jill Cullinane

Minutes

The minutes were approved as published.

Newsletter Angie Schmidt

The deadline for submitting articles is December 8, 2019. The next issue is a double issue for the months of December and January. Articles to be included in the issue are: Zoning Report, Historic Preservation Report, an article on the impending demolition of townhouses in the 400 block of 13th Street NE, a brief article on the Hilloween event, a thank you to the House Expo vendors, a recap of the Preservation Café, and listing of dates for the March, April and May Preservation Cafes.

Treasurer's Report Susan Oursler

There are a large amount of excess funds in the checking account. What should CHRS do with the excess funds? There was much discussion on how to reduce the amount of excess funds in the checking account. A motion was made that half of the excess funds be transferred to the Endowment Fund. After further discussion and a second by Chuck Burger, the motion was passed.

Transferring all the remaining funds in the Stanton Park Neighborhood account to CHRS now would close out the organization legally by reducing their funds to zero. After discussion, Chuck Burger made a motion seconded by Patrick Lally that the proposed solution be moving all but \$2,000 of the Stanton Park Neighborhood Association funds to CHRS accounts. This will leave a \$2,000 residue in Stanton Park Neighborhood accounts and leave the organization in existence but inactive. The motion passed.

President's Report Beth Purcell

There was favorable coverage in the Washington Post Real Estate section about a project that the Historic Preservation Committee commented upon – 300 8th Street NE (The Boneval). The Historic Preservation Review Board echoed CHRS's comments and required that the developer use light colored brick on the project instead of painting darker color brick a light color. The Shotgun House renovation/restoration also had a favorable article in the Post Real Estate section.

The House Expo was a success. CHRS collected \$1,855 from exhibitors and had expenses of \$1,760. There were 13 sponsors including Chuck Burger/Steve Hagedorn/Coldwell Banker and Hill Rag. There were a total of 35 vendor exhibitors. Should CHRS hold the House Expo again next year? A motion to

hold the Expo again next year on a Saturday in October was made by Susan Oursler and seconded by Patrick Lally. The motion passed.

The House Expo was held one day after the Hilloween event at the Eastern Market. Tables and chairs for both events were rented from Jenks Hardware. Because the tables and chairs were secured and stored overnight between events in the North Hall, CHRS and Hilloween received a discount on delivery/pick-up from Jenks.

Historic Preservation Report Alison Ross and Joanna Kendig

716-718 L Street SE – the committee opposed the proposed third floor and penthouse additions in the project because they are clearly visible from across the street and down the block.

Zoning Report Gary Peterson

The October 17th committee meeting considered six zoning cases. The committee voted to support four of the cases because the projects met the proposed special exception requirements. The committee voted to oppose one project (717 Kentucky Avenue SE) because it did not special exception requirements and voted to oppose another project (1421 D Street SE) because the proposed project would increase shadows on neighboring yards.

Gary gave some updates Ward 6 portions of the Comprehensive Plan proposed changes. The Historic Preservation Committee should read and comment upon the Historic Preservation element of the Plan. There are no changes proposed to the Zoning portion of the Capitol Hill element. There is a proposal in the Plan Capitol Hill element to expand the Historic District. It is the sense of the CHRS Board that a study of proposing expansion of the Capitol Hill Historic District in some manner should be done.

Hilloween Elizabeth Nelson

The CHRS table was well attended and there was much discussion with parents of children. Many CHRS brochures were given out and the benefits of belonging to CHRS were discussed.

House Tour Elizabeth Nelson

The committee is performing well and is looking at house possibilities already. The committee is sending out solicitation letters of potential house participants. The target search area is south of independence Avenue SE and between 4th and 12th Streets SE. Houses outside this target area will also be considered to see how the distribution of potential houses occurs. The refreshment break center will be the Hill Center.

Preservation Café Christine Mullins

Gary Barnhart will be presenting at the November 20th café. His topic will be historic brick maintenance. There will be Preservation Cafés held in March, April and May of 2020.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:51 PM