

Capitol Hill Restoration Society
Board of Directors Meeting
March 15, 2023

President Angie Schmidt convened the meeting at 6:00 pm at the Northeast Neighborhood Library, 330 7th Street NE.

Members Present:

Nick Alberti, Chuck Burger, Maygene Daniels, Monte Edwards, Beth Hague, Joanna Kendig, Jackie Krieger, Tina May, Christine Mullins, Undine Nash, Elizabeth Nelson, Gary Peterson, Beth Purcell, Angie Schmidt, Jim Thackaberry

Members Absent: Fynnette Eaton, Delancy Gustin

Secretary's Report – Maygene Daniels

Daniels presented minutes of the February Board meeting.

Motion: Elizabeth Nelson moved that the February minutes be approved. Jim Thackaberry seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report – Nick Alberti

The Treasurer presented financial reports to the Board, which were accepted without discussion.

President's Report – Angie Schmidt

President Angie Schmidt reported on planning for celebration of the 150th anniversary of Eastern Market, including a cherry blossom art display in the North Hall.

The president showed the Board the redesigned CHRS membership brochure, with the new CHRS logo. Plans call for printing the brochure in relatively small batches and for having it available for spring events, including the Eastern Market Preservation Café.

The President also showed the Board the poster design for the 2023 House and Garden Tour, featuring an architectural drawing motif with a blueprint-style background.

She reported that CHRS has sponsored the nomination of Eastern High School to the DC inventory of historic sites in collaboration with the school community. The nomination coincides with the 100th anniversary of the historic building. The president especially commended Beth Purcell and Joanna Kendig for their excellent work on the nomination.

Andrea Furster approached CHRS to offer documents she gathered to offer documents relating to her representation of the Society. The President accepted the offer with a view to transferring the file to be with other CHRS records preserved at the GW Gelman Library.

The Nominations Committee consisting of Beth Purcell, Jim Thackaberry and Undine Nash has developed a proposed slate for the 2023 CHRS election, subject to final confirmations.

The President reported that work continues cleaning the CHRS office and is approaching completion.

House Tour Update – Jackie Krieger

Jackie Krieger reported that planning for the annual House and Garden Tour is moving forward on schedule. The tour will be on Saturday and Sunday May 13 and May 14. Eleven houses will be on the tour.

Hill Center at the Old Naval Hospital will be the rest stop and site of tour day ticket sales. A tour of the building with the renovation architect will be offered at 3 pm on Sunday May 14.

Ticket sales on Eventbrite will begin on April 2. CHRS members will receive emails with their discount codes or codes for free tickets at higher membership levels as appropriate.

Chuck Burger has arranged for CHRS to have a table outside the Coldwell Banker real estate office on 7th Street to advertise the tour on weekends after Easter.

Dick Wolf Memorial Lecture – Monte Edwards

Monte Edwards announced that the date of Friday September 29 at Hill Center has been confirmed for the 2023 Dick Wolf Memorial Lecture.

Walking Tours – Elizabeth Nelson

Elizabeth Nelson reported that three spring walking tours will take place on Saturday April 1. An email was sent to CHRS members announcing the tours prior to general publicity. Tickets were available via Eventbrite and were sold out before the tours.

Elizabeth Nelson also reported that the April walking tours have earned some \$1000 in revenue for CHRS.

She also reported that on March 7 Beth Purcell and Joanna Kendig offered highly successful walking tours of Capitol Hill to attendees at the national conference of State Historic Preservation Officers, which was held at St. Mark's Church.

Communications Committee – Elizabeth Nelson

Elizabeth Nelson reported that the committee continues to work to develop a robust Instagram presence for CHRS. Libby Quaid has created a series of posts on the themes “Why you should join CHRS” and “Ask CHRS.”

Dorianne Fengler invited CHRS to donate tickets as prizes for a “Commuter Challenge – Don’t Drive Alone” sponsored by DDOT. The proposal was approved as an element of House Tour publicity.

Preservation Café – Chris Mullins

Chris Mullins reported in detail on plans for the next Preservation Café to be held in-person at Eastern Market North Hall as a marquee event for the Market’s anniversary celebration. Local historian Robert Pohl will speak on “Celebrating Eastern Market for 150 Years”.

At the next Preservation Café on April 11, Molly Acorn will speak on the restoration and use of marble mantelpieces. The Preservation Café will return to the zoom format.

Joanna Kendig will speak on the history of DC water and sewer infrastructure on May 16.

Historic Preservation – Beth Purcell

The Historic Preservation Committee presented testimony before the DC Historic Preservation Review Board on redevelopment of the PEPCO substation building at 732 7th St SE. The Committee considered the project generally compatible with the historic district. It was approved by the Historic Preservation Review Board.

Committee testimony concerning 647 G Street SE argued that the proposal should not be approved because of extensive planned demolition and the dark and unventilated basement living spaces. The Board did not vote but expressed concern over the project and asked the applicant to return with further information.

Zoning Committee – Beth Hague

The Zoning Committee will hold its organizing meeting on April 5, with regular meetings to take place at 7 pm on the first Wednesday of the month in CHRS 10th Street offices.. The committee has sent information requests to six applicants who have submitted projects to the BZA.

Motion to Adjourn

Jim Thackaberry moved that the meeting be adjourned. Chuck Burger seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.