

Capitol Hill Restoration Society
Board of Directors Meeting
May 17, 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, Fynnette Eaton, Monte Edwards, Delancey Gustin, Beth Hague, Joanna Kendig, Jackie Krieger, Tina May, Christine Mullins, Undine Nash, Elizabeth Nelson, Beth Purcell, Angie Schmidt, Jim Thackaberry

Absent: Gary Peterson

Secretary's Report – Maygene Daniels

Daniels presented minutes of the April Board meeting.

Motion: Elizabeth Nelson moved that the April minutes be approved. Fynnette Eaton 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

The President reported that the 2023 Mother's Day House and Garden Tour sold out with the maximum 1000 tickets sold. Tickets were sold via Eventbrite, a process that streamlined sales and accounting and led to savings by eliminating printed tickets. 1200 catalogs were printed.

The tour committee of Angie Schmidt, Fynnette Eaton, and Jackie Krieger has agreed to be responsible for the 2024 tour.

The annual President's Party will be held on Saturday June 17 in Steve and Maygene Daniels front garden, weather permitting. Once again the party will honor the home owners, docents, and other volunteers who contributed to the tour.

The President also brought to the Board's attention a DC proposal to transfer responsibility for city parks from the National Park Service. Neighborhood parks, Anacostia Park, and RFK stadium would be included. She noted that this is an issue that CHRS should monitor.

Walking Tours – Elizabeth Nelson

CHRS continues to work on the planned Art Walk on September 9 and 10 in collaboration with the Capitol Hill Art League. An article on the Art Walk will be in the Hill Rag with a call for

artists and CHRS also will develop a social media campaign. August 6 will be the registration deadline. The registration form will be on-line.

City Planning – Monte Edwards

Monte Edwards and Dru Talent continue to track development of the multi billion dollar 13 year Union Station redevelopment project, giving particular attention to environmental impact on surrounding residential areas. Union Station redevelopment will include reconfiguring tracks, demolition of the parking garage, and creation of an underground passenger drop-off area.

Historic Preservation – Beth Purcell

Developers provided HPRB with additional information on the proposed changes to 647 G Street SE, HPA 23-096. Based on this additional information the revised plan was approved by HPRB. It also was noted that the proposed construction will require zoning relief which may not be approved.

As discussed earlier by the CHRS Board, developers of 639 A Street SE were cited and fined for unauthorized demolition. The developers resubmitted previously approved plans which again were approved by HPRB, with the admonition that neighbors should be consulted concerning on-going construction.

The Board discussed possible ways to alert membership on ways to be alert for illegal building activity. To respond to this concern, the CHRS Newsletter will systematically carry a list of recent HPRB cases to encourage monitoring by neighbors. Plans also call for CHRS to develop and post information on how to track building permits using the DC Government on-line database and how to report illegal construction.

Zoning Committee – Nick Alberti

The Zoning Committee reviewed three zoning cases and recommended approval for all three.

Communications Committee – Elizabeth Nelson

Libby Quaid developed a creative series of Instagram posts during the month focusing on the House Tour and House Tour advertisers. CHRS continues to enhance its social media presence.

Community Relations – Elizabeth Nelson

CHRS will again march in the Capitol Hill Fourth of July Parade. As in 2022, lollipops branded with the CHRS name will be available for marchers to throw to children (and adults) in the crowd. An eblast will be sent out to encourage CHRS members to join the fun.

Preservation Cafés – Chris Mullins

On May 16 Joanna Kendig gave the final on-line Preservation Café for the season with a presentation on the history of DC water and sewer infrastructure.

A new season of Preservation Cafes will begin in September.

Rumsey Natatorium Renovation – Chuck Burger

Discussion of funding and and planning for renovation of the Rumsey Natatorium adjacent to Eastern Market on North Carolina Avenue is continuing. Initiation of the project is still several years in the future.

Motion to Adjourn

Jim Thackaberry moved that the meeting be adjourned. Undine Nash seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted
Maygene Daniels, Secretary