

Tue, Nov 14 at 9:26 AM

Capitol Hill Restoration Society
Board of Directors Meeting
Oct. 18, 2023

President Angie Schmidt convened the meeting at 6 p.m. at the Northeast Library, 330 7th St. NE

Members Present: Chuck Burger, Maygene Daniels, Monte Edwards, Fynette Eaton, Jim Thackaberry, Beth Purcell, Libby Quaid, Schmidt

Zoning Action Request: The Board was asked to vote on whether to support a Board of Zoning Adjustment application (Case No. 2096) for relief from minimum parking requirements for a planned development at 1371/1375 H St. NE. The Zoning Committee did not vote on this request. John Linam Jr., AIA, the applicant, presented the plan to the Board. The plan for the development, which includes a first-floor dog day care business and residential units on the upstairs floors, does not include parking or alley access and trash pickup is planned 5 days a week at the entrance to the building on H Street. The Board went into executive session to discuss the issue following the secretary's report. A motion was made to take no position on the BZA applicant's request. It was seconded and approved by a voice vote with two abstentions.

Secretary's Report: Secretary Libby Quaid presented minutes of the September Board meeting. A motion was made to approve the minutes with a spelling correction and an attendance correction. The motion was seconded and approved by a voice vote with no objection.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Nick Alberti was absent.

President's Report:

October walking tours: Turnout was good and CHRS sold out 75% of the tickets.

Eastern Market tours for the House Expo: Schmidt said she and Quaid created a 30-minute tour of the market and would be training volunteers to give the tours during the Expo. She said the basis for the new tour was a longer script by City Planning Committee Chair Monte Edwards.

House Expo planning: Schmidt said she would send out a sign up for working the CHRS table at the Expo.

Website: Schmidt said she will get two more web design proposals to have three in hand when the Board next discusses the new website and that the goal is to get the new website done in time for the 2024 House Tour.

Mugs: At the Expo there will be mugs with the newly designed CHRS logo and branding for sale for \$10, not as a fundraiser but to get the word out about CHRS.

Community Relations: There will be a CHRS table at Hilloween at Eastern Market and volunteers will be needed to work the event. Elizabeth Nelson, chair of the Communications and Community Relations committees, ordered trick-or-treat bags with the CHRS logo on them.

Communications Committee: Nelson was absent. Schmidt and Quaid mentioned that promoting the Dick Wolf lecture and walking tours was the subject of the most recent meeting. They said committee member Marci Hilt sent out a news release to media outlets about the Expo and about the vaccination clinic that would be offered by Capitol Hill Village.

Historic Preservation Committee: Committee Chair Beth Purcell said there will be a resubmission of plans in November to the ANC and CHRS for 630 G Street SE, an 1841 building adjacent to Christ Church.

House Expo: Community Development Chair Chuck Burger said there was strong demand from vendors for tables at the Expo and that the city agencies formerly known as DCRA would be present. Board members agreed to coordinate to hand out cards promoting the Expo at Eastern Market in the coming days.

Membership: Committee Chair Maygene Daniels said registration is going well.

Dick Wolf Lecture: The lecture, reactivated after three years, was a success, co-organizer Edwards reported. The room at the Hill Center was full with just over 100 attendees. The speaker, Dr. John Rennie Short, was a professor rather than a student or intern as in the past. His topic, opportunities for cities after COVID-18, was well-received. A report submitted to the Board by Edwards and co-organizer Delancey Gustin, at-large member, showed the event's costs came in under \$2,000.

Preservation Cafes: Schmidt reported for First Vice President Chris Mullins that the upcoming Preservation Cafe will be with Community Forklift and that the November Preservation Cafe subject will be private gardens.

New Business:

RFK Stadium: On the evening of this Board meeting, Mayor Muriel Bowser was at a meeting of the Kingman Park Civic Association about the future of the RFK Stadium site. CHRS Environment Committee Chair Joanna Kendig was attending that meeting. Edwards said that he and Purcell are preparing a white paper about the site's future for The Committee of 100 on the Federal City, a nonprofit group dedicated to safeguarding D.C.'s historic distinction, natural beauty and liveability. That paper will eventually be posted on the group's website, Edwards said a 2-page statement from the group was developed for the RFK meeting and offered to share it with the CHRS Board. Board members discussed how the brewing dispute over the site may develop. There was

discussion of a point in the future when the CHRS Board will need to take a position on the issue and the importance of being informed for now.

Newsletter: Stories in the next publication will be about the Dick Wolf lecture, the RFK Stadium meeting, the House Expo, a zoning report and historic preservation briefs, Preservation Cafe on solar power and Community Forklift and Hilloween at Eastern Market.

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn was made and seconded, and the board approved it on a voice vote with no objection.

Respectfully submitted
Libby Quaid, Secretary