

Capitol Hill Restoration Society  
Board of Directors Meeting  
March 20, 2024

President Angie Schmidt convened the meeting at 6 p.m. at the Northeast Library, 330 7th St. NE. She reminded Board members the meeting was being recorded for purposes of note-taking.

**Members Present:** Fynnette Eaton, Monte Edwards, Joanna Kendig, Jackie Krieger, Tina May, Undine Nash, Gary Peterson, Beth Purcell, Libby Quaid, Schmidt, Jim Thackaberry

**Secretary's Report:** Quaid presented the February Board meeting minutes. Thackaberry moved to approve them, Eaton seconded the motion and it was approved on a voice vote with no objection.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Nick Alberti was absent. He sent Board members a report before the meeting.

**President's Report:**

–Schmidt met recently with the head of the Historic Anacostia Preservation Society to discuss issues the group shares with CHRS, including the 11th Street Bridge Project.

–She and Peterson met with Scott Price of Capitol Hill Village to discuss shared interests including CHV's sidewalk repair project.

–She has been in contact with neighbors unhappy about the new opaque plexiglass coverings over the stained glass windows on the historic church building at 7th and A streets NE. This issue was discussed at the February Board meeting, too. Purcell explained gray areas in city regulations that allowed the church to install the coverings and Board members discussed how the coverings changed the appearance of the building's facade but did not come up with any action to pursue.

–Swampoodle Grants. Purcell presented a grant request, similar to one previously approved, for solar panels on a home at 627 3rd St. NE. Swampoodle grants, awarded after work is satisfactorily completed, are \$5,000 or half the amount of the project, whichever is less. She moved the request be approved, Thackaberry seconded the motion and it was approved on a voice vote with no objection.

–Pacci's Trattoria. Schmidt said a recent Board of Zoning Adjustment hearing on the Lincoln Park restaurant had caused consternation with neighbors who support Pacci's request for an exemption from the BZA to expand to its second floor. During lengthy discussion by the Board, Zoning Committee members said that Pacci's presentation to the CHRS zoning committee to justify a variance to expand seating in the restaurant had been insufficient.

**Communications:** Quaid said the committee met Feb. 27 and March 11. She asked members to check with the committee before posting anything online to make sure it aligns with the calendar and planned promotions. She said the committee agreed to buy social media advertising from The Hill is Home and is looking at advertising on the City Cast DC podcast/Hey DC newsletter. The committee also sent a story and photos to the Hill Rag about the House & Garden Tour and sent calendar items about upcoming walking tours. The committee also invited Capitol Hill Corner's Larry Janezich to come on a walking tour. Quaid encouraged Board members to reach out with ideas for social media posts and described the reach on Instagram of recent posts that Purcell suggested.

**Historic Preservation:** Purcell asked the Board to approve testimony supporting Ward 6 Councilmember Charles Allen's legislation to increase penalties for illegal demolition of historic property. Her testimony on behalf of CHRS, to be submitted for a hearing on the measure, includes recommended amendments to strengthen enforcement. Thackaberry moved to approve the testimony, Krieger seconded and the motion passed on a voice vote with no objection.

**House Tour:** Schmidt said ad sales for the catalog are going well, in part because of a new online payment method the House Tour Committee has set up. She said full-color photos will be printed in the catalog. She said posters will be available at the next Board meeting and said tickets will go on sale April 1.

**Membership:** Committee Chair Maygene Daniels was absent but Schmidt said membership renewal letters had been mailed and followed up with email and that CHRS has been getting responses.

**Nominating:** Purcell said expressions of interest and resumes are due March 25 and said a slate will be presented for the Board to approve at the April meeting.

**Zoning:** Chair Alberti was absent. Peterson noted Alberti had sent Board members a report on the four cases considered at the committee's March meeting. Peterson showed Board members plans for a new 500-apartment building to be built on Reservation 13 east of St. Coletta school. He said the Zoning Commission must approve the building plans, which call for two-thirds of the apartments to be low- and moderate-income apartments.

**Preservation Cafes:** The talk by Kendig about the history of electrification of DC is scheduled for the coming week. Talks on Capitol Hill alleyways in April and on Eastern High School in May are also scheduled, Schmidt said. Organizer Christine Mullins was absent.

**New Business:** Edwards said the Union Station redevelopment's Environmental Impact Statement was issued recently with a Record of Decision, indicating an end to acceptance of further public comments. The document retained features considered problematic by The Committee of 100 on the Federal City, Edwards said.

**Newsletter:** Items are planned on recent walking tours Kendig and Purcell gave to state preservation officials, the House & Garden Tour, a call for house tour volunteers, a recap of the Southeast Library Preservation Cafe, photo contest winners, zoning briefs, upcoming walking tours with photos and Councilmember Allen's illegal demolition bill.

**Adjournment:** Thackaberry moved to adjourn, multiple Board members seconded the motion and it was approved on a voice vote without opposition.

Respectfully submitted,  
Libby Quaid, Secretary