

Capitol Hill Restoration Society
Board of Directors Meeting
May 15, 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: Nick Alberti, Maygene Daniels, Fynnette Eaton, Monte Edwards, Beth Hague, Joanna Kendig, Jackie Krieger, Christine Mullins, Gary Peterson, Beth Purcell, Schmidt, Libby Quaid, Jim Thackaberry

Secretary's Report: Quaid presented the April Board meeting minutes. Thackaberry moved that the minutes be approved, several people seconded and the motion was approved on a voice vote without objection.

Treasurer's Report: Alberti sent a report to Board members before the meeting. Alberti said he would send a proposed budget to members in June in advance of the next Board meeting. He mentioned that grants that are approved and expected to be approved will draw from the remaining \$29,000 in the Swampoodle grant fund.

President's report: Schmidt reported on the House & Garden Tour, saying CHRS sold more than 1,200 tickets, and Board members discussed the event's success. She noted the June 1 President's Party for house tour volunteers. And Schmidt said she met with a Historic Anacostia Preservation Society official interested in advice from CHRS about putting on a house tour.

Committee reports:

Communications: The committee met April 29. Quaid said the first-ever social media preview to promote the House & Garden Tour went well, with those who toured 802 A St. NE posting video and photos on Instagram. Quaid described advertising that ran in the Hey DC newsletter and City Cast DC podcast in addition to print, online and email ads in the Hill Rag, which also ran story and photo submissions from CHRS. Quaid said the committee is developing an annual communications plan and will approve it at the next meeting, scheduled for May 21.

Community Relations: Schmidt mentioned plans to march in the Barracks Row July Fourth parade. The Board agreed CHRS should hand out lollipops again.

Historic Preservation: Purcell sent a committee report to the Board before the meeting. DC's Historic Preservation Review Board didn't hold hearings in March because it didn't have enough members for a quorum, she said. New members were named and the HPRB had its scheduled meeting in April.

House Tour: There was more Board discussion with Eaton, Krieger and Schmidt about the House & Garden Tour and discussion of plans for the 2025 house tour, such as building a larger team of house history writers for the booklet. Daniels made a motion to express appreciation and thanks to the House Tour Committee, Alberti seconded the motion, and it passed on a voice vote without objection. Krieger said she was grateful for house captains and docents. Board members suggested soliciting homes for future house tours on the CHRS membership form, at the House Expo, and as part of walking tours.

Membership: Daniels and Alberti talked about ways to use the membership database to encourage people to renew their memberships. Schmidt said numbers have increased steadily, perhaps in conjunction with a recent mailing campaign and requests for House & Garden Tour discount codes.

Nominating: Purcell said postcards listing the Nominating Committee's slate for the 2024-25 Board of Directors would be mailed soon and that results would be announced at the summer general membership meeting on June 17, when the Historic Preservation Office's Steve Calcott will speak and take questions.

Zoning: Alberti sent a report before the meeting on the single case considered at the March committee meeting, at which members voted in support.

Preservation Cafes: The May 28 Preservation Cafe on Eastern High School's 100th anniversary is coming up.

New Business:

–Edwards said the Federal City Council (a nonprofit group) has issued a 125-page study on the Union Station expansion project.

–Alberti said Pacci's Trattoria had gotten approval to expand seating to the second floor of its building.

Newsletter: Board members agreed to include historic preservation and zoning briefs and items on house history from research in the house tour booklet, information on the general membership meeting, the DC Council's Healthy Homes Act, the history of Howard University's houses for freedmen on 14th Place NE, and June walking tours of Capitol Hill alleys.

Adjournment: Eaton moved to adjourn, Purcell seconded the motion and it passed on a voice vote without objection.

Respectfully submitted,

Libby Quaid,
Secretary