

Capitol Hill Restoration Society
Board of Directors Meeting
January 15, 2025

President Angie Schmidt convened the meeting at 6:05 p.m. at the Northeast Library, 330 7th Street NE. Schmidt reminded members the meeting was being recorded for purposes of note-taking.

Members Present: Nick Alberti, Fynette Eaton, Monte Edwards, Matt Handverger, Marci Hilt, Joanna Kendig, Jackie Krieger, Tina May, Elizabeth Nelson, David Pelizzari, Gary Peterson, Beth Purcell, Libby Quaid, Schmidt.

Secretary's Report: Quaid presented the minutes from the December Board meeting. Eaton moved to approve the minutes, Pelizzari seconded the motion and it was approved on a voice vote without objection.

Stanton Park neighborhood group: The Board heard from Stanton Park neighbors Andy Seymour, Jay Adelstein and Ellen Levinson about efforts to repair and revitalize Stanton Park. Board Members offered to lend assistance on historical research and promotion of the group's efforts.

President's Report:

- **Sidewalks task force.** Eaton said the group is preparing a report for DC Council oversight hearings that will ask for sufficient funding to repair tripping hazards sooner. She said the group is seeking a pedestrian plan and information on injuries from DDOT.
- **RFK redevelopment:** Schmidt proposed creating a subcommittee to examine the issues involved. Purcell offered to be on it, as did Kendig, Edwards and Peterson. Peterson suggested reaching out to other groups, and Schmidt mentioned the community groups in Kingman Park and Anacostia. The group agreed to let the Board know when they would meet.
- **70th Anniversary:** Schmidt said April 10 is the tentative date for a 70th anniversary celebration at Eastern Market's North Hall from 6-8 p.m.

Committee Reports:

- **Communications:** The committee met January 14 and is working on publicity for upcoming events, beginning with the next Preservation Cafe on February 6 featuring the Trolley Museum. Also in the works are plans to promote the photo contest and March 4 Preservation Cafe. Hilt also mentioned that a walking tour for CHRS members given by Congressional Cemetery followed by an ice cream social is in the works for the first or second Saturday in June.
- **Community Relations:** Nelson said the Board should table discussion from December of a show of young people's artwork at the Hill Center, because the space is unavailable in September.
- **Historic Preservation:** Purcell said the HPRB would be considering a concept review for a three-story rear addition at 16 3rd Street NE during its December meeting. She said the plans call for eliminating one of two dormer windows on the rear mansard roof, which CHRS opposed, and said the HPRB insisted the addition not interfere with the mansard roof.
- **House Expo:** Negotiations are ongoing with Eastern Market for a date for the event, and a placeholder date is October 25, with November 1 as a backup.
- **House Tour:** Krieger said the house history research group, which included four new volunteers, met the previous weekend.
- **Membership:** Handverger gave an update on the Join It membership database and efforts to automate emails to those whose membership has expired. He outlined plans

for the 2025 photo contest, telling Board members the judges would be Frank Thorp, NBC News photographer; Amy Moore, executive director of Capitol Hill Arts Workshop; Austin Graff, digital marketer/photography enthusiast; and the cover artist for the House Tour catalog. He said there would be an under 18 division and said a reception for winners will be in April at the Coldwell Banker Realty office, where photos will be displayed.

- **Zoning:** Alberti said the committee met and voted to support a lot occupancy exemption for a planned three-story with cellar rear addition at 717 5th Street NE.
- **Preservation Cafes:** Schmidt said February and March events are planned.

New Business:

- **70th anniversary:** Board members had copies of a draft document Pelizzari distributed with ideas for topics to highlight CHR's work over the decades. Board members discussed the format for the program.

Newsletter: Board members agreed to include the following items: Photo contest, sidewalks update, Stanton Park revitalization, historic district signs, Preservation Cafes, house history research, zoning, inclusionary zoning and a story from the archives about keeping your historic house warm.

Adjournment: Nelson moved to adjourn the meeting, Eaton seconded the motion and it was approved on a voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,
Libby Quaid, secretary