

Capitol Hill Restoration Society

Board of Directors Meeting

September 17, 2025

President Angie Schmidt convened the meeting at 6:04 p.m. at the Northeast Library, 330 7th Street NE. She reminded members that the meeting was being recorded for purposes of note-taking.

Members present: Nick Alberti, Fynnette Eaton, Matt Handverger, Marci Hilt, Joanna Kendig, Jackie Krieger, Elizabeth Nelson, David Pelizzari, Gary Peterson, Beth Purcell, Libby Quaid, Schmidt, Jim Thackaberry.

Office housekeeping:

- Pelizzari brought a black and white photo of a house he has been unable to identify. It is a Second Empire-style brick house that is not the Frederick Douglass house, though it looks similar.
- He showed members large city maps found in the office and asked Board members for thoughts on what to do with them. The maps are all available online. There was general agreement to offer them at the House Expo and to donate them if no one takes them.

Secretary's Report: Quaid presented minutes from July. Thackaberry moved to approve the minutes as amended, Nelson seconded the motion, and it was approved on a voice vote.

Treasurer's Report: Alberti sent members financial information in advance of the meeting. The committee that oversees the CHRS investment fund met recently, he said. He said the organization will end the year with a surplus and under budget.

President's Report:

- **Walking Tour donation:** Schmidt donated a group walking tour to the nonprofit Everyone Home DC.
- **Membership meeting:** The general membership meeting on September 11 at the Hill Center was a success; the budget for fiscal 2026 was approved.
- **Walking tours:** September walking tours were sold out and CHRS gained four new members. October tours are scheduled on the 4th and 5th.
- **Members-only Ghost walking tour.** This is at 6 p.m. on October 17, led by local historian Robert Pohl, and will be offered to members this week. We'll add a second if there is interest.

Committee Reports:

Communications: Hilt discussed promotion of the September and upcoming October walking tours and the members-only ghost walking tour, which she arranged. She said CHRS has an ad for the House Expo in the booklet for the October 19 Renovators House Tour. Peterson complimented the committee's work.

Community Relations: Nelson said that good weather and good turnout made for a well-attended 2025 Art Walk. She said she registered CHRS for Hilloween and ordered treat bags for the annual event and said she asked organizers for details about the chairs and tables, which will be used for the House Expo the following day..

Environment: Kendig gave a report:

- **Expiration of federal and DC programs:** Kendig said tax rebates for solar are ending December 31 so the economics of doing solar will change significantly. She said she is working on a potential Preservation Cafe about solar power.
- **Purple Air Sensor Project:** DC DOEE has loaner program of sensors that are installed on a house's exterior to check pollution levels. The data is available to the public.
- **Bottle bill:** Kendig noted a public hearing is set for October 1 by the Committee on Business and Economic Development on the bill to add a 10-cent fee to bottle **and can** sales that would be refunded when the containers are recycled.
- **Committee of 100:** Peterson said the group is sponsoring a meeting on federal and city parks at 6:30 p.m. on October 23.

Historic Preservation: Purcell said HPRB did not meet in August. She said the committee has filed comments on some cases but doesn't yet know whether they will move forward.

Membership: Handverger gave a report on new members and said free newsletters with an insert from CHRS will be going to homeowners who have purchased new homes. He said mission statement drafts will be coming via email.

Zoning: Alberti said the committee met September 3 and voted to take no position on two cases that were parking-related. The committee voted to oppose a zoning exemption for a penthouse addition with a roof deck at 828 12th St. NE; the owner asked the committee to review the case again in October. And the committee voted to support an exemption to allow the addition of a porch at 916 D St. NE, which appears to have had a front porch, likely as part of its original design.

New Business: Quaid asked Board members for a volunteer to take on Preservation Cafes, as there have only been a few of these events since the Board agreed to take on Preservation Cafes collectively. Members discussed the idea of a CHRS member who is not a board member volunteering to arrange Preservation Cafes.

Newsletter: Members agreed on these items for the next newsletter: Updated website "reveal," zoning, membership meeting, House Expo, call for volunteers for Hilloween/House

Expo/Preservation Cafe production, Art Walk photos, environment briefs, L'Enfant Preservation Cafe overview, mystery Eastern Market mural, Hilloween, ghost walk, mark your calendar/supporters.

Adjournment: Alberti moved to adjourn and Pelizzari seconded the motion, which passed on a voice vote without objection.

Respectfully submitted,

Libby Quaid, Secretary