

Capitol Hill Restoration Society
Board of Directors Meeting
April 16, 2025

President Angie Schmidt convened the meeting at 6 p.m. at 420 10th Street SE. Schmidt reminded members the meeting was being recorded for purposes of note-taking.

Members Present: Marci Hilt, Jackie Krieger, Tina May, David Pelizzari, Beth Purcell, Schmidt, Jim Thackaberry, Chuck Burger, Matt Handverger, Elizabeth Nelson

Secretary's Report:

Quaid was absent but circulated the minutes in advance. Nelson moved to approve the minutes with one amendment, Hilt seconded the motion and the motion was approved on a voice vote without objection.

Treasurer's Report: Alberti was absent but circulated a report in advance.

President's Report:

- Schmidt and Krieger represented CHRS at a DC History Conference at the MLK Library. They had a table and shared information about the organization and the upcoming House Tour.
- Schmidt and Krieger represented CHRS at Volunteer DC at Hill Center at the Old Naval Hospital. They shared information about the organization and encouraged visitors to volunteer as docents for the House Tour.
- The 70th Anniversary party in the Eastern Market North Hall was a success. Charles Allen attended as did many long-time members. Handverger took many good photos. Catering was from Eastern Market merchants, The "stations" put together by Pelizzari were particularly well-received. Nelson suggested that the materials be re-purposed for other events.
- Photo contest winners were displayed at the 70th Anniversary. They will also be on display at the Coldwell Banker offices on 7th Street, for public viewing, after May 1. On May 1 from 5:30-7:30 pm, there will be a reception for participating photographers and judges
- Pelizzari reported that the updated CHRS website is "coming along" and may be ready at the end of June.
- A Membership event will be held at Congressional Cemetery on June 7. Tours will be offered at 2 pm with ice cream and the summer business meeting (to announce the election results) to follow at 3 and 3:30 pm.
- The annual President's Party (to celebrate the House Tour) has not been scheduled but will probably take place in late May.

Committee Reports

Communications: Hilt gave the report

- Copy for the CHRS ad in the Capitol Hill (Fagon) Guide has been approved.
- A story, with photos, will be sent to the Hill Rag announcing the results of the photo contest and opening reception.

- Our social media partnership posts are doing well as are our own social media posts.
- Joe Himali of Best Address may post about one of the House Tour houses (620 Massachusetts Ave NE). There is no cost associated with this.
- House Tour-specific advertising: Print outreach includes Hill Rag, Washington Post, 51st, Washington Informer, Charles Allen's newsletter, Southwester, Washington Blade, Beacon, WAMU and the Hill is Home. There will be a media tour of at least one of the houses before the event. Paid social media includes Not Bored in DC and H Street Beat.

Environment: Kendig was absent but Schmidt and Purcell noted some activities related to maintenance of parks.

Historic Preservation: Purcell said that HPRB approved the garage case (4 & 5 Library Ct.) referenced in last month's minutes.

House Tour:

- Krieger reported that sufficient house captains have been identified. More docents are needed but are being recruited. She distributed a map and a list of houses/captain assignments.
- Schmidt expects posters to be ready soon, also maps that can be distributed. Some postcards have already been printed. She also reported on check in locations. The catalog is on schedule.
- A self-guided walking tour might be added, if time permits.
- May, Purcell, and Nelson advocated for having a House Tour promotion table in front of Coldwell Banker office on 7th St. SE and they will staff it. Burger will facilitate by making the space available. Subsequent to the meeting, Saturday April 26 was chosen with May 3 as the rain date.

Nominating Committee: Burger, on behalf of the committee, submitted a proposed slate for board approval. Nelson moved to approve the slate, Schmidt seconded the motion and the motion was approved on a voice vote without objection. Purcell noted that ballots will go out in early May and will be returned in time to announce the results at the Membership meeting on June 7 (see above).

Zoning: Alberti was absent but circulated a report in advance. Krieger, who is on the committee, noted that the committee opposes a special exception for a dog-leg, because there are no other filled-in dog legs on that block.

Membership: Handverger is thinking about ways to leverage House Tour activities to increase membership. He has been successful in working with JointIt to create personalized messaging. There are 18 new members since March.

Preservation Cafes: Pelizzari said that the series will resume in the fall.

Old Business: The board considered official ratification of a proposal circulated by email, to contribute \$10,070 to the effort by the DC Preservation League, to study the impact of historic preservation on the city. Pelizzari moved to ratify the vote, Hilt seconded the motion and it passed on a voice vote with no objection.

Newsletter: Topics include: House Tour, Elections, June Membership Meeting/Ice Cream/ Cemetery tours, photo contest reception at Coldwell Banker, report on 70th Anniversary party. A brief note regarding the Art Walk will be included in the calendar. Deadline is April 20.

Adjournment: Nelson moved to adjourn, Handverger seconded the motion and it passed without objection

Submitted by Elizabeth Nelson