

Capitol Hill Restoration Society

Board of Directors Meeting

March 18, 2026

President Angie Schmidt convened the meeting at 6:09 p.m. at the Northeast Library, 330 7th Street NE. She reminded members that the meeting was being recorded for purposes of note-taking.

Board members present: Fynnette Eaton, Monte Edwards, Marci Hilt, Joanna Kendig, Jackie Krieger, Tina May, David Pelizzari, Beth Purcell, Libby Quaid, Schmidt, Jim Thackaberry.

Also present: CHRS member Marianne Klein.

Secretary's Report: Quaid presented the minutes from the February meeting. Peterson **moved to approve the minutes, Thackaberry seconded the motion and it was approved on a voice vote without objection.**

Treasurer's Report: Alberti sent a report in advance and was absent.

President's Report:

- H Street Corridor Planning. Schmidt attended the H Street planning session that DC Office of Planning held at Sherwood Recreation Center recently.
- 2050 Plan. Schmidt will attend the MLK Library for a 2050 planning session on Saturday.
- Sidewalks. There is a gathering about sidewalks and an initial survey at Sherwood on Saturday at 10. They're asking people to volunteer to adopt blocks
- Stanton Park. Revive Stanton Park cleanup. It's from 10 a.m.-12 p.m.
- Stadium. RFK Planning on Saturday, March 28, at 10:30 a.m. at St. Coletta's.
- D.C. History Conference networking session at MLK Library at 1:30 p.m. on Friday, May 1.

Committee Reports:

Communications: Hilt said the Communications Committee met on March 10. Members discussed website updates and upcoming social media content, including Women's History Month, the photo contest, docent recruitment for the House Tour and the Poetry Invitational. She reported strong recent performance on social media because of February Black History Month content and the first two weeks of March Women's History Month posts, including nearly 5,000 Instagram followers, and increased views and engagement, particularly from non-followers. She said volunteers will be needed for the planned table at Eastern Market in advance of the House Tour.

Environment: Kendig said the District's container deposit ("bottle bill") legislation is still moving through committee. She noted expansion of the city's composting program, including additional drop-off bins, and said she would share more information when it is available. She also discussed potential future programming on electrification and healthy homes, possibly as a Preservation Café topic later in the year.

Historic Preservation: Purcell had distributed testimony in support of the planned renovation for Chisholm Elementary. She said the Historic Preservation Review Board denied proposed demolition at 418 4th St. SE and that a revised proposal will return for review.

She also reported that updated plans for the Rumsey Aquatic Center will return next month to the Board, with revisions to increase the scale of the building. **Krieger noted that the Eastern Market Community Advisory Committee is concerned the current plans for the Rumsey renovation may not allow adequate space in the alley between the Market and Rumsey for truck deliveries, trash pickup, and customer parking.**

Board members discussed potential future preservation initiatives, including replacement of historic district signs and possible adoption of call boxes. Members agreed to decide in April on an ad hoc committee to further discuss ideas. Nelson moved to set up an ad hoc committee to work on strengthening the exposure of historic districts.

Membership: Schmidt noted that membership appears steady.

House Tour: Krieger reported that planning is progressing, with eight houses, one garden and three public spaces currently confirmed. One additional house has been added since the last Board meeting. She said docent recruitment is underway with approximately 45 volunteers signed up; and more outreach will be needed. Schmidt emphasized the need for Board members to serve as house captains and asked members to confirm availability for May 9–10.

House Expo: Purcell said planning for 2026 is under way and that there are still some 2025 vendors with outstanding payments.

Elections: Purcell said a slate will be ready for April Board meeting.

Zoning: Krieger reported on two cases. CHRS supported a request by St. Joseph's Catholic Church for a special exception and variance related to construction of a new parish center. A second case involving a proposed takeout restaurant on 8th Street SE remains under review pending additional information and community concerns.

New Business: Poetry Invitational. Pelizzari said CHRS received several submissions that will be featured in the newsletter. Planning continues for the photo contest judging and reception.

Newsletter: Members discussed upcoming content, including the House Tour, Poetry Invitational, Photo Contest results if available, Zoning and Preservation updates and other features. The submission deadline is Sunday evening.

Adjournment: Hilt moved to adjourn, Eaton seconded the motion and it was approved on a voice vote without objection.

Respectfully submitted,

Libby Quaid, secretary

