

Capitol Hill Restoration Society

Board of Directors Meeting

May 27, 2026

President Angie Schmidt convened the meeting at 6:05 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: Nick Alberti, Matt Handverger, Jackie Krieger, Tina May, David Pelizzari, Gary Peterson, Beth Purcell, Libby Quaid, Schmidt, Jim Thackaberry.

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

Treasurer's Report: Alberti said financial reports had been circulated. A draft budget for the next fiscal year will be sent to the Board soon, pending final comments. Board members were asked to review the draft carefully before the next meeting, when it will be discussed. The budget is expected to be voted on in July.

It was noted that the public-facing versions of recent budgets should be added to the budget page on the CHRS website. The budgets have appeared in newsletters, but the separate website page needs updating.

President's Report:

- **House & Garden Tour.** The event was a success. Ticket revenue was essentially the same as last year, Final expenses are still being received, but printing costs may be lower this year. The Board discussed ticket prices, which have remained the same for three years. Schmidt said the size of the tour is likely at the outer limit of what the organization can handle in terms of the number of houses and docents.
- **Historic district street signs.** Schmidt attended and answered questions at a recent Kingman Park community meeting. She said Kingman Park leadership and community members support CHRS helping with perimeter signs for the Kingman Park Historic District. Alberti volunteered to draft a short agreement or memorandum of understanding confirming the understanding between CHRS and Friends of Kingman Park. CHRS will also inventory faded, damaged, or missing Capitol Hill Historic District signs. The ad hoc committee on this issue will include Krieger, Peterson, Purcell, Alberti and Schmidt, with Quaid joining for

work on historic call boxes. Board members were asked to photograph problematic signs and send the location information.

- **Fourth of July parade.** CHRS participation in the Barracks Row event will proceed as usual, and lollipops have been ordered.
- **RFK Stadium.** CHRS submitted a letter in support of a letter from the Committee of 100 regarding RFK-related issues.
- **Stanton Park.** CHRS is also supporting the Revive Stanton Park group's June 20 event with the National Park Service for America's 250th, with a rain date of June 27. CHRS will publish information on its website and include the flyer in the newsletter. Purcell, Quaid, CHRS member Rosemary Harold and others are helping prepare a walking tour for the event.

Committee Reports:

Communications. Quaid reported on House and Garden publicity, including in the Hill Rag. CHRS advertised with City Cast DC, including pre-roll podcast ads and newsletter banner ads, which performed well. The House Tour also benefited from strong earned media and social media, including posts by Best Address/Joe Himali, The Hill Is Home and Austin Graff. The Board discussed sending a thank-you message to House Tour attendees and using that opportunity to direct people to CHRS information and membership.

Community Relations. Board members were reminded that CHRS will participate in the Fourth of July parade and that volunteers, friends and family are welcome to help carry the banner and hand out lollipops. CHRS is also a community sponsor for Capitol Art Walk, scheduled for September 12-13. Artist registration is due August 10.

Historic Preservation. There were no Capitol Hill cases on the Historic Preservation Review Board calendar, so the committee had no work for the month, Purcell said. She said the committee will meet June 1 to review three cases on the June calendar. She said draft design guidelines for alley buildings have also been published.

House and Garden Tour. The Board thanked the committee for a successful tour, agreeing the headquarters location worked well. Board members discussed clarifying rules for next year regarding beverages, photography and video. Closed containers may be allowed, but open containers should not be brought into tour houses. Additional signage will be considered.

House Expo. Purcell said planning has begun for the fall House Expo. The fire marshal permit has been obtained, and Eastern Market is reserved for Saturday,

October 31. Vendor outreach will begin later in the summer. Additional committee help is needed, as Schmidt will not be able to serve on the committee this year.

Membership. Handverger said membership has passed 360 members. A summer membership meeting to announce the Board election results is tentatively planned for Sunday, June 21, location TBD. Handverger said the photo competition reception was successful, with seven of 10 winners attending, along with at least one judge. The contest was viewed as a strong membership and engagement activity.

Elections. Purcell said the committee has completed its work and that ballots have been mailed and will be counted after the deadline. The election cycle will conclude in time for the new officers and directors to begin their terms on July 1, she said.

Zoning. Alberti said the committee has not had recent cases because of a lack of a quorum on the Board of Zoning Adjustment. He said two cases may be upcoming, but scheduling remains unclear.

Other Business:

- **Call Boxes.** Peterson said he's picking up call box materials next week, and Quaid said a meeting will be scheduled. The call box work can be folded into the ad hoc committee on historic district street signs.
- **Budget.** Board members were reminded to review the draft budget before the next meeting.

Adjournment. Alberti moved to adjourn, Thackaberry seconded the motion and it passed on a voice vote without objection.

Respectfully submitted,

Libby Quaid