

State Capitol and Executive Residence Board
Executive Residence
October 28, 2019 Minutes

1. Call to Order

The meeting of the State Capitol and Executive Residence Board was called to order by the Legislative Chairperson, Senator Risser, at 1:00pm at the Executive Residence.

2. Roll Call

SCERB Recording Secretary, Jillian Vessely, called the roll. A quorum was present. Senator Risser also introduced the newest member to SCERB, Mr. Christian Overland. Mr. Overland has taken the place of Mr. Jim Draeger as the Director at the Wisconsin Historical Society.

Members Present: Senator Risser, Senator Olsen, Representative Loudenbeck, Representative Born, Ms. Alton, Ms. Brown, Mr. Fernholz, Mr. Kay, Mr. Overland, Ms. Neitzel, Ms. Reed, Mr. Siggelkow, Ms. Torstveit, and Ms. Veltum.

Members Absent: Senator Roth.

Guests Present: Kara Sailing, Office of Senator Risser; Danielle Zimmerman, Office of Representative Loudenbeck; Charlene Malueg, Executive Residence Director; Jason Rittel, DOA-DFDM; Ted Crawford, DOA-DFDM; Mike Bath, DOA-DFDM; Darrin Smith, DOA-DFDM; Linda Anderson, Department of Tourism.

3. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes (February 11, 2019)

Motion #1: Mr. Kay moved to approve the minutes from February 11, 2019. Seconded by Senator Risser.

Motion #1 was approved by unanimous voice vote.

(Members Absent for Vote: Senator Olsen, Mr. Overland, Ms. Torstveit)

4. Subcommittee Reports

Ms. Alton, Furniture and Finishes Subcommittee Chair, provided a summary and the subcommittee's final recommendations for the following items that were reviewed by the subcommittee in early October.

Executive Residence Grand Staircase Sconces

The subcommittee reviewed Vaughan Paris wall sconces to be placed on both sides of the second-floor grand staircase mirror. They are a tad smaller in size compared to the

existing sconces but look great with the mirror. The subcommittee approved the installation of these sconces in the same location as the existing sconces.

Motion #2: Ms. Alton moved to approve the new location of the Vaughan Paris wall sconces as proposed and presented in the SCERB packet. Seconded by Representative Loudenbeck.

Motion #2 was approved by unanimous voice vote.
(Members Absent for Vote: Senator Olsen, Ms. Torstveit)

Executive Residence Reception Room Exterior Doors

There are two porch doors that lead into the Reception Room that are currently solid panels. It has been proposed that the six panels on each door be replaced with glass panels (Thermopane Tempered “E” glass) to allow more natural light into the room. The doors would be removed (one at a time), worked on and returned within one days’ time. Existing hardware and paint finishing will remain the same. Similar to the exterior windows, the same 3M Prestige Sun Control Window Film will be added to these glass panels.

Motion #3: Ms. Alton moved to approve the replacement of the solid wood doors in the reception room with the proposed glass panels and window film as presented in the SCERB packet. Seconded by Ms. Reed.

Motion #3 was approved by unanimous voice vote.
(Members Absent for Vote: Senator Olsen, Ms. Torstveit)

Executive Residence Women’s Powder Room Rug

The existing rug in the women’s power room is deteriorating and requires replacement. The subcommittee was presented a replacement that was similar in size, color scheme and pattern, but low in cost. There was question over the material and long-term care, but due to the economic value of it, the subcommittee recommends approval.

Motion #4: Ms. Alton moved to approve the replacement of the women’s Powder Room rug as presented in the SCERB packet. Seconded by Mr. Overland.

Motion #4 was approved by unanimous voice vote.
(Members Absent for Vote: Senator Olsen)

Executive Residence Reception Room & Drawing Room Rugs

In September 2018, SCERB approved a new rug for the reception room that was of cream and gold colors. Due to the lighter colors and high volume of traffic in this area, it has been proposed that this rug replace the rug in the Drawing Room that is now in need of replacement due to excessive wear and discoloration. An oriental rug that used to be in

the Reception Room would be put back in its place. The subcommittee approved the movement of these rugs and felt the transition would better suit each room's décor and color schemes.

Motion #5: Ms. Alton moved to approve the relocation of the Reception and Drawing Room rugs as presented. Seconded by Ms. Torstveit.

Motion #5 was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Executive Residence Formal Garden Railings

To enhance the accessibility and safety of the Formal Garden, it has been proposed that four sections of curved railings be added along the steps into the garden. They will match the other existing railings on the property but will be installed in a reversible manner should they be desired to be removed in the future. The subcommittee thought this was a great idea as the Residence is visited often and will help the public with safety and mobility.

Motion #6: Ms. Alton moved to approve the railing placement in the Formal Garden. Seconded by Mr. Kay.

Motion #6 was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Capitol POW/MIA Memorial Emblems

The previously approved "Chair of Honor" Memorial has been brought back to add two additions to the display – an engraving on the bottom of the marble base to identify the groups who funded the memorial (Rolling Thunder and VFW) and the year it was dedicated (2020); and two bronze plaques at the top of the memorial to display the Rolling Thunder logo and VFW USA Cross of Malta. Both additions would mimic the style, design, colors and features of those displayed on the reverse-side Veterans Memorial.

The subcommittee reviewed both additions and thought the additions of the two plaques at the top of the memorial were unnecessary; however, the engraving at the bottom is appropriate and falls in similar practice to the Veterans Memorial that also has an engraving of the fundraising group and dedication date. Having both the engraving and plaques seems duplicative. Ms. Neitzel inquired as to whether the groups had any pushback regarding these recommendations and Mr. Rittel explained that while the groups would ideally like both on the memorial, they are pleased with just the engraving and will plan to make the plaques on their own for use in traveling displays.

Motion #7: Senator Risser moved to approve the subcommittee's recommendation to make a modification to the design of the memorial and engrave the marble base but not add the plaques. Seconded by Mr. Fernholz.

Motion #7 was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Capitol Assembly Furniture

The office furniture for the Assembly in the North and West wings of the Capitol are in need of replacement. The furniture in these offices are approximately 25 years old, are worn, and in poor condition. They also do not match the solid quarter-sawn oak office furniture that reside in the South and East wings. The subcommittee reviewed the selection process and methodology used to evaluate the proposed furniture designs and potential manufacturers. It was noted that DOA and the Assembly worked together to ensure that the furniture elements mirrored the best design elements of existing furniture and included specifications from the Restoration. Photographs of the finished mocked up furniture from three companies were provided for review. The subcommittee reviewed the process and recommended approval with the design criteria as it maintains the historical integrity of the Capitol.

Motion #8: Representative Born moved to approve the methodology that was created to make selections for future furniture construction. Seconded by Mr. Overland.

Motion #8 was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Fernholz, the Garden Master Planning & Capitol Park Subcommittee Chair, provided an introduction into the two items his subcommittee reviewed in July.

Executive Residence Drainage Solutions

The subcommittee reviewed several options to mitigate the standing water problem during rain events at the Executive Residence. Options included more mechanical systems such as pumps, rain gutters and grates; as well as those that were more natural, such as various raingardens. From an economic standpoint, installing pumps and hardware would cost several hundred thousand dollars whereas raingardens and natural plantings, most of which could be done in-house, would be more economical. It was the subcommittee's determination after reviewing designs from the A/E and evaluating rain mitigation that adding the raingardens was the most economical choice at this time to help resolve the issue. The raingardens will be excavated to reach the fine sand layer and will be sized to help infiltrate the average annual rainfall within 48 hours.

Motion #9: Mr. Fernholz moved to approve the grading and planting plans as provided. Seconded by Mr. Kay.

Motion #9 was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Executive Residence Shoreline Restoration

The Lakeshore restoration continues to move forward via its previous approval; however, the subcommittee thought it was best to split the implementation up into two phases.

Preliminary plans are currently in the works on Phase 1 that includes the types of plantings and landscape changes needed at the shoreline. It is estimated that the plantings will be done in the fall of next year. Possible volunteers will be considered for the planting implementation and maintenance. The subcommittee will continue to update the full board on the progress of this project and obtain approval of the finalized phase plans.

5. State Capitol Updates

Mr. Crawford provided updates on the following projects at the State Capitol.

- Window Repairs - This project will be addressing the failed windowsills. There are approximately 480 sills at the Capitol and out of those 63 will need to be replaced and 96 will need filler and caulk repairs. The rest of the sills will be put on a watch list for future repairs. The work to be completed in the Summer 2020.
- Dome Tuckpointing - This project is caulking the joints on the main dome, along with some minor repair work on the interior trusses. This project will be bid in January for summer construction.
- Storm Sewer Repairs - This project is replacing the sewer line from Wisconsin Avenue to West Washington and repairing a backup water line from the street to the West Washington entrance. It will be completed in phases, with bidding in early January for Spring 2020 construction.
- Roof Replacements – This project is replacing the roof system, repairing miscellaneous skylight glazing, and minor masonry work. The project is bidding in November and the start of construction will be in April 2020 with completion in October 2020. Each wing should take approximately 1-1 ½ months to complete. Each drive will be closed for a portion of the work, which was coordinated with Capitol Police.
- Assembly Chambers Ceiling Restoration - This project will bid in the middle of December and construction will start in Spring 2020 and completed before August 2020.
- Tour Orientation Room AV Upgrades – This project is complete. The planned videos and WisEye feeds are active.
- Security Camera Upgrades - This project is complete; 62 new cameras were installed (35 in the interior and 35 exterior with new two new servers).
- Exterior Dome Lighting Upgrade - This project is substantially complete. There are 40 panels total that were replaced, 10 in each wing.
- Fire Panel Upgrades – This project is going out for bids in early November, with completion by May 2020.
- Intercom Station Upgrades – This is a small project to upgrade the existing intercom stations at the entrance doors to the Capitol. This will take place after the Executive Residence installation is complete.

6. Executive Residence Updates

Mr. Crawford provided updates on the following projects at the Executive Residence.

- WiFi & Cell Phone Booster Additions - This project is complete. Additional hidden antennas were added to the attic to give the residence full wifi and cell phone coverage.
- HVAC Commissioning & Thermostat Upgrades - The HVAC system is being commissioned to improve heating and cooling performance. Asbestos work is complete on the fittings, and in-house staff is working on circuit setters and plug valves. The project is scheduled for completion by early December.
- Raised Garden Beds - The raised garden bed area on the Residence grounds will be reworked to provide more garden space.
- Intercom Station Upgrades - The front and south gate intercoms will be upgraded to a new video/audio solution that will eliminate the system delays currently experienced at the site. The project is out to bid currently and should be completed by the end of the year.

7. State Capitol Items for Approval

Capitol Tribal Flags Display

At the previous SCERB meeting, the eleven federally recognized Tribal Flags were approved to be placed in the first floor Capitol Rotunda. This was designated as their temporary location as the board wanted to review their performance in this designated spot. During discussion, it was noted that the location in the Rotunda might not be as ideal as originally thought due to the number of events held in the Rotunda and staff having to continually move the flags.

The board was presented several other options within the Capitol for placement and display patterns (with or without spreaders), and it was agreed upon that the next best option for their placement is in the first floor Round Room. There are no other statues in this location and there are options for the flags to either be placed around the perimeter wall or within the center circle. The board would like to try the flags in both display patterns within the Round Room and see which is favorable for the long term and final placement. DOA Facilities will plan to report back their findings.

Motion #10: Senator Olsen moved to approve a temporary relocation of the 11 flags to the Round Room, with their positioning being tested both against the perimeter wall and in the center of the room. Other formations could be tested by DOA to be brought back to SCERB to determine final location. Seconded by Representative Loudenbeck.

Motion #10 was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Tourism Selfie Station

The Department of Administration IDEAS Committee and Department of Tourism presented a proposal to approve temporary placement of a single Selfie Stand at select locations inside and outside of the Capitol, as well as inside the Executive Residence.

Tourism recently partnered with the Department of Natural Resources and currently has over 50 Selfie Stands throughout Wisconsin's state parks. With the half a million visitors each year to the State Capitol and Executive Residence, it was thought that this too might be a great opportunity for the public to remember their visits to each location. The Selfie Stands are mobile, weighted, wood-based stands that have a two-sided plaque display. One side provides information and instructions while the other side has the stand for cellular phones.

The board discussed this item at length and agreed that while it might be a great concept, the look of the signs do not at all match the high standard finishes of the Capitol or Executive Residence. Mr. Rittel explained that DOA could make a replica selfie stand and finish it with the same stain as the other wood within the Capitol. Another option would be to make the replica out of metal with a faux marble paint finish.

Motion #11: Ms. Torstveit moved to approve a 30-day trial of the Selfie Stand at the State Capitol in December, to overlap with the Holiday Tree display, with flexible placement on the first floor of the Rotunda. The stand should also be upgraded in design to match the same wood finishes in the Capitol. The board would like this item to be brought back for review at the next meeting. Seconded by Luther Olson.

Motion #11 was approved by majority voice vote.

Votes against motion: Representative Born and Ms. Neitzel.

8. Other Business

There was no other business discussed at this meeting.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:30pm.