

State Capitol and Executive Residence Board
State Capitol - 412 East
April 25, 2022 Minutes

1. Call to Order

The meeting of the State Capitol and Executive Residence Board was called to order by Legislative Chairperson, Representative Loudenbeck, at 1:05pm. The meeting was a hybrid meeting, taking place both in the State Capitol 412 East conference room as well as via conference call. WisconsinEye was also present to broadcast the meeting on their live feed.

2. Roll Call

SCERB Recording Secretary, Jillian Vessely, called the roll. A quorum was present.

Members Present: Senator Agard, Senator Kooyenga, Senator Roth, Representative Duchow, Representative Loudenbeck, Representative Subeck, Mr. Asad, Mr. Fernholz, Mr. Kay, Mr. Overland, Ms. Reed, Mr. Siggelkow, Ms. Maul and Ms. Veltum.

Members Absent: Ms. Neitzel and Ms. Sager

Guests Present: Mr. Tom List, DOA-DFTS; Mr. Jason Rittel, DOA-DFTS; Mr. Darrin Smith, DOA-DFTS; Mr. Matt Siller, DOA-DFTS; Danielle Zimmerman, Office of Rep. Loudenbeck; Mr. Michael Phillips, Son of Vel Phillips; Mr. Dave Endres, Vel Phillips Task Force; Ms. Marilu Knode, Sculpture Milwaukee and Vel Phillips Task Force; Mr. Radcliffe Bailey, Artist

3. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes (November 1, 2021)

Motion #1: Mr. Overland moved to approve the minutes from November 1, 2021. Seconded by Senator Kooyenga.

Motion #1 was approved by unanimous voice vote.

4. Subcommittee Business & Reports

Vel Phillips Statue Proposal / Mr. Christian Overland

The Subcommittee convened earlier today and appointed Mr. Overland as the new Subcommittee Chair. He provided an overview of the morning's meeting to the board.

Members of the Vel Phillips Task Force provided an update on the status of this project, including the contract and anticipated project timeline. The subcommittee was also introduced to the artist, Mr. Radcliffe Bailey (he was also briefly introduced at the full board meeting). The contract is nearly complete with the exclusion of some of the more minute details such as figuring out insurance, liability, transportation of the statue (of which they will be hiring a Registrar to assist), contracted purchase price, etc. The hope is for the Task

Force to present the final concept and a mockette of the statue at the next SCERB meeting this fall. The fabrication would then begin sometime around Spring 2023 and hopefully delivered and installed at the Capitol sometime between Fall 2023 and Spring 2024. Mr. Bailey was able to provide some initial insight to the subcommittee about his process and concepts of the statue, including the size, patina, and message. The Task Force also confirmed the statue will be one-of-a-kind and the sole version to be created of Vel Phillips for this location. The State will also take possession of the cast/mold upon completion and will be securely stored at the State Archive Preservation Facility. Both of these items will be laid out clearly in the contract.

Garden Master Planning & Capitol Park Report / Mr. John Fernholz

The Subcommittee met on March 4, 2022 to review and discuss the following items, and therefore have presented formal recommendations to the board as outlined below.

Executive Residence Memorial Garden – The subcommittee’s recommendation is to formally designate the garden on the south side of the lawn as a Memorial Garden to commemorate those who have served Wisconsin’s Governors and their families, as well as approve a bronze plaque that will be mounted on an existing granite stone with the following inscription:

Executive Residence

Memorial Garden

In memory of all who have served Wisconsin’s Governors and their families. Planted to honor their memory and celebrate their lives. Those who touch our lives stay in our hearts forever.

Representative Loudenbeck, who serves on this subcommittee, noted that the plaque will be paid for by the Wisconsin Executive Residence Foundation (WERF).

Motion #2: Representative Loudenbeck moved to approve the subcommittee’s recommendation. Seconded by Mr. Fernholz.

Motion #2 was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Shoreline Restoration Plan – The subcommittee’s recommendation is to approve the plan that was presented during subcommittee meeting. This includes Phase 1 (along the lakeshore) beginning this summer and Phase 2 (along the hillside leading from the walking path up to the lawn edge) throughout much of 2023.

Representative Loudenbeck inquired about the maintenance plan. Ms. Veltum indicated that the installers are doing some fundraising for maintenance through the use of volunteers, any and all of which would be thoroughly vetted by Capitol Police, as is standard practice for any

work done at the Residence. The DOA-DFTS Grounds Team would assist with maintenance as needed or if there were any concerns with the volunteers.

Representative Duchow inquired about rip rap and if this'll be done with natural plantings. Rep. Loudenbeck read back minutes from the subcommittee meeting that this project intends to replace missing breaker rock in-kind and will make no substantial changes to the design or appearance of the shoreline itself.

Motion #3: Mr. Kay moved to approve subcommittee's recommendation. Seconded by Mr. Asad.

Motion #3 was approved by unanimous voice vote.

State Capitol Vegetable Garden – The subcommittee's recommendation is to allow the vegetable garden to continue for a minimum of one year (2022 growing season) at the current King Street location without signage.

Representative Subeck inquired about the signage component in the recommendation as it is unclear what the original proposal was. Ms. Veltum showed the board a copy of the new planting plan as proposed by Rooted and Mr. Smith noted that Rooted has not presented any ideas for signage simply because it was voted down in the subcommittee. However, initial and early discussion proposed the idea of small informational signs to help identify various vegetable species or information about where the produce is then donated and used.

The board once again had a lengthy discussion regarding the continuation of the garden and the concept of signage. There remain some concerns by the members about the routine maintenance of the garden, of which Mr. Smith noted a proper maintenance plan has been proposed by Rooted and reviewed by DOA. He also indicated that Rooted has made great efforts to correct the issues and already has a good amount of volunteers to ensure the garden is up to visual standards for the Capitol grounds. There were additional comments made about the garden being a mismatch to the normal aesthetic of the rest of the grounds and that it might be best used elsewhere in town to truly and properly serve as a "community garden." Follow up discussion supported the important educational opportunities the garden presents, and that signage would likely add value and assist with the garden's demonstrative purpose for how food is grown. Signage could also possibly assist with the community's reception and understanding of the garden and where the produce grown is donated to (local food banks).

The only other item that came up in the discussion was that Rooted wishes to potentially add some trellises to the planting plan within the Hmong Garden Section; this was not previously covered in the subcommittee meeting. Mr. Kay noted a concern to blindly agree to the addition of trellises without seeing a possible sample. Mr. Smith noted that trellises have been used throughout the garden's history.

Motion #4: Mr. Kay moved to accept the subcommittee’s recommendation, excluding the addition of trellises. Seconded by Senator Agard.

Motion #4 was approved by majority voice vote.

Mr. Asad, Ms. Reed and Representative Duchow are opposed and voted “nay.”

Furniture and Finishes / Ms. Marcel Maul

The Subcommittee met on April 7, 2022 and appointed Ms. Maul as the new Subcommittee Chair. She provided an overview of the subcommittee’s recommendations for the following items.

State Capitol GAR Room MOLLUS Art Installation – The Wisconsin Commandery of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States (MOLLUS) is interested in exhibiting six oil painting portraits of U.S. Civil War Generals in the State Capitol GAR Room (413 and 416 North). These works of art were commissioned in the 1880’s by MOLLUS and possess historical value as the artists are all known to be from Wisconsin. The paintings are owed by the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs (WDVA) and they will be in charge of the restoration process. It is their request, in conjunction with MOLLUS, to display these paintings.

The Subcommittee discussed this proposal at length, and it is their recommendation to display of at least four, but up to six, MOLLUS paintings in the State Capitol GAR (413N and 416N), at the discretion and for a duration as determined to be mutually acceptable to WDVA and DOA. Additionally, the subcommittee recommends the proposed room locations for displaying the art to be behind the dais and behind the public seating area only. Mr. Smith was able to present a mockup of a potential exhibit label that would be potentially placed next to each painting to the board.

The board had a lengthy discussion about this request with one of the biggest questions being how long WDVA intended for these to be on display, as it was clarified by Ms. Maul and Mr. Rittel that this request was not for “permanent” display but rather “long term” display. There were also questions about how quickly these paintings would be restored and therefore put up and Mr. Rittel noted that each painting anticipates about two months and up to a whole year for the set. He also noted that WDVA and MOLLUS would prefer to have a dedication ceremony prior to their hanging.

Senator Agard raised concern and wanted it noted that these are four to six more paintings of white men while it is the understanding that the Capitol’s intention overall is to be more diverse. It is also important to constituents who visit the Capitol to see diversity represented. While the other members noted her concern, there was further discussion by Senator Kooyenga and staff about the historical connection of these Generals to the Civil War and GAR room. While the significance of these portraits is that the artists are known to be from Wisconsin, Senator Kooyenga argued that there are potentially other Generals whose

portraits would be more ideal since they have specific connections to Wisconsin and the State Capitol (example: General Edward Bragg).

The board also talked about SCERB's existing policy of not adding new monuments without the removal of another, and how the language lacks specificity towards pieces of art. The age-old question is where SCERB draws the line for such requests without turning the Capitol building into a museum. The board agreed that more attention to the policy may be needed and that then can help further this discussion and decision along.

Motion #5: Mr. Kay moved to table this request and send this it back to Subcommittee to look for development of a policy for displaying Art. Seconded by Senator Agard.

Motion #5 was approved by unanimous voice vote.

State Capitol Universal Changing Station – This request seeks to add a Universal/Adult Changing Station to the ADA accessible unisex restroom in the State Capitol – Ground floor in 31East. The Subcommittee reviewed this proposal, and it is their recommendation to add a powered height adjustable Universal/Adult Changing Station, remove the existing urinal, and approve to drill concealed holes in the wall marble for both electrical and mounting hardware and reconfiguring the restroom entrance door to swing out to accommodate wheelchair accessibility in 31 East.

Representative Loudenbeck asked how long this would take to install and Mr. Smith indicated the timeline is unknown as there are currently material delays. It is the hope that it will be installed yet this year.

Motion #6: Senator Agard moved to approve the subcommittee's recommendation. Seconded by Representative Subeck.

Motion #6 was approved by unanimous voice vote.

State Capitol USS Wisconsin Badger Statue Plaque Addition – The USS Wisconsin Badger statue has been on display in the State Capitol building since 1989. Recently, the U.S. Navy has agreed to extend the loan of the statue for an additional 50 years and it has been proposed to add a bronze plaque that represents the relationship between the U.S. Navy and the State of Wisconsin. The Subcommittee reviewed the specifics of this proposal, and it is their recommendation to install a bronze plaque with leathered-patterned dark brown background, approximately 28" wide x 10" tall, similar in appearance to other plaques throughout the State Capitol installed on a raised incline base to the existing USS Wisconsin Badger Statue in the State Capitol first floor East Wing Governor's Office. Mr. Smith had a mockup of the plaque on hand to show the board.

Motion #7: Senator Agard moved to approve the subcommittee's recommendation. Seconded by Mr. Overland.

Motion #7 approved by unanimous voice vote.

State Capitol Robert M. La Follette Statue Plaque Addition – A statue of the bust of Robert M. La Follette currently exists in the Rotunda of the Capitol but is currently the only statue that does not have an associated plaque to describe the significance behind it. Several proposed plaque ideas were presented to the Subcommittee, and it is their recommendation to add a bronze plaque with the format of bullet points and to be mounted below the engraving on the West face of the existing statue base. As the final, specific wording could not be determined at the subcommittee meeting, the La Follette School of Public Affairs at UW-Madison (School) and current Secretary of State, Douglas J. La Follette, worked together to present the board the final option.

Representative Duchow asked why if several plaque options were proposed, the board was not given an opportunity to review them. It was noted by Ms. Maul and staff that the subcommittee ruled out a more narrative plaque (that was the School and Secretary of State's preferred plaque) and tried to format guidelines that are similar to the other plaques in the Capitol. There was also an inquiry from the members on if there are any current family members of Robert M. La Follette's that were consulted on this proposal. Mr. Smith indicated that the School and Secretary of State were the primary requestors for this plaque. Representative Loudbeck asked if Mr. Overland could work with the Wisconsin Historical Society (WHS) could look into a family history and see if there are any present family members present that should be consulted. Lastly, the members asked about the cost of the plaque and who would be covering the cost. Mr. Rittel noted that at this point, DOA would cover the cost of this plaque (estimated to be between \$2,000-\$2,500).

No motion was made as the board would like to bring this item back at a future date once WHS can confirm family relations.

State Capitol Senate Chambers – Wood Doors – The Senate requested security enhancements that the Subcommittee was able to review and discuss during their meeting. It is the Subcommittee's recommendation to replace the glass panels in the upper sections of doors 202S, 204S, 205S, 226S, and 230S leading to the Senate Antechamber with solid quarter-sawn white Oak wood panels.

Motion #8: Ms. Reed moved to approve the subcommittee's recommendations. Seconded by Senator Agard.

Motion #8 was approved by unanimous voice vote.

State Capitol Senate Chambers – Leather Doors – The Senate requested security enhancements that the Subcommittee was able to review and discuss during their meeting. It is the Subcommittee’s recommendation to install decorative brass head and foot bolt locking mechanisms, similar in design to existing hardware in the Assembly Chamber and receiving holes into the wood head jamb and the marble stone threshold in a total of 16 leather door locations (207S (double), 209S (double), 215S (2 sets of double doors), 225S (double), 247S (double), and 248S (2 single doors and a double door)).

Motion #9: Mr. Overland moved to approve the subcommittee’s recommendation. Seconded by Senator Agard.

Motion #9 was approved by unanimous voice vote.

State Capitol Window Roller Shades – The current burgundy metal mini-blinds that are installed on windows within the Capitol have reached the end of their useful lives and require replacement. This proposal seeks to install commercial grade color-matched full blackout and sheer roller shades in their place. The Subcommittee was able to view samples of these roller shades during their meeting and it is their recommendation to upgrade window openings through the State Capitol with color-matched blackout and sheer roller shades with color-matched aluminum housing and corresponding brass-beaded lift chains on both sides of the window opening.

Motion #10: Representative Loudenbeck moved to approve the subcommittee’s recommendation. Seconded by Senator Agard.

Motion #10 was approved by unanimous voice vote.

5. State Capitol Updates

Mr. List provided updates regarding the following projects at the State Capitol.

- Reserved Stall Painting – This project was approved by the board at the November 2021 meeting and is currently being prepared for bidding. All permitted parking stalls around the Capitol Square and in the Capitol driveways will be painted with “RESERVED” markings. All existing lines, crosswalks and handicap indicators will also be repainted.
- AED/First Aid & Sharps Locations – Also approved at the November 2021 meeting, the AEDs are ready to deploy but the cabinet alarm parts are experiencing supply chain delays. The Sharps Dispensers are also experiencing supply chain delays therefore installation is targeted for this summer.
- Sound System Upgrade – This project is beginning field survey work and is in preliminary design. It is anticipated to go to the State Building Commission for approval this fall.
- Promenade Masonry Repairs – The East Washington and North Hamilton entrances are complete, with a few minor exceptions due to weather conditions.

This project will continue through the spring and summer to complete work at the Wisconsin Avenue entrance.

- Fire Panel System Upgrades – This project has been completed and the new system is in service.
- Window Repairs – This project had to be rebid due to initial bids in fall 2021 coming in over budget. The high priority windows (107) will be addressed first and hopefully completed this year. All exterior window paint refinishing will be completed by in-house DFTS staff.
- Assembly Office Furniture – Phase 1 has been completed and Phase 2 should be completed by May.
- Plaster Ceiling & Decorative Painting Repairs – This project is currently in pre-design and requires further field examination, a condition assessment, and detailed documentation of each panel. Treatment testing and a mockup will follow. The panel framing plaster and finish was worse than expected therefore DFTS is working through a separate project to complete repairs as quickly as possible.
- Drapery, Blinds & Window Film – The existing furnishings are non-historic therefore it has been determined that full replacement, versus rehabilitation, will be more cost-effective, less disruptive to tenants, and provide better longevity in the end. The board just approved the installation of the roller shades as the replacement mechanism for the blinds.
- Exterior Cleaning & Bird Netting – The contracted A/E is working to develop the scope of work. This project likely will not take place until 2023.
- Skylight Replacements – The contracted A/E is working to develop the scope of work. This project will hopefully begin in 2023.
- Drain Line Repairs – Additional investigation of the storm water piping is ongoing. The contracted A/E is preparing the program statement and estimated costs of construction to submit for budget enumeration.
- Lighting Controller Replacements – This project is being completed by in-house DFTS staff. There currently are some supply chain delays therefore the project should be completed in 2023.
- Star Memorial Garden Plaque – The granite stone has been ordered and is expected to be installed this summer.
- WI Law Enforcement Memorial Restoration – The contract has been awarded and the granite stone ordered. Privacy fencing will be installed and the project will take place between Memorial Day and Labor Day, with final completion in September.

6. Executive Residence Updates

Mr. List provided updates for the following projects at the Executive Residence.

- Window Repairs – The sash replacements are experiencing supply chain delays therefore this project is expected to be completed this fall, with some of the work being performed by in-house DFTS staff.
- Lakeshore Stabilization - This project is to address erosion and sliding of the breaker rock along the shoreline. It involves the installation of erosion fabric and additional retention boulders, followed by a second project that will entail planting of native plant species along the shoreline. The breaker rock repair is scheduled for August, with the native planting expected in September.

7. Other Business

SCERB Booklet – As no formal motion was made to create this new subcommittee, it has been administratively changed to a workgroup. The Legislative Council and Legislative Reference Bureau will work with Representative Loudenbeck’s office and participating workgroup members to digitize the booklet as well as catalog historical content and actions of the board. The goal is to have this done by the end of the year.

Senator Agard thanked Representative Loudenbeck for all of her years of service to SCERB and the State as she will not be running again this fall.

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:45pm.