

**State Capitol and Executive Residence Board**  
**State Capitol - 412 East**  
**October 6, 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 1:06pm. 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.

Representative Loudenbeck provided opening remarks welcoming new SCERB Member, Corissa Uselmann, to the board. She also thanked former member Kate Neitzel for all her work and dedication over the years.

**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. Fernholz, Mr. Kay, Mr. Overland, Ms. Reed, Mr. Siggelkow, Ms. Uselmann, Ms. Maul and Ms. Veltum.

Members Absent: Mr. Asad 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; Mr. Ted Crawford, DOA-DFTS; Mike Bath, DOA-DFTS; Danielle Zimmerman, Office of Rep. Loudenbeck; Ms. Charlene Malueg, Executive Residence Director; Stephanie Weix, First Lady Chief of Staff; 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 (April 25, 2022)**

**Motion #1:** Representative Subeck moved to approve the minutes from the April 25, 2022 meeting. Seconded by Ms. Reed.

**Motion #1 was approved by unanimous voice vote.**

**4. Subcommittee Business & Reports**

**Vel Phillips Statue Proposal / Mr. Christian Overland**

The Subcommittee met earlier this morning to get an update on the Vel Phillips Statue progress and Mr. Overland provided a summary of that discussion. Provided in the board's

packets were photos of two maquettes – one of Vel Phillips sitting and the other standing. The Task Force is not currently ready to provide a final recommendation; however, they are leaning towards the seated maquette. The size of the head is about as big of a golf ball in the clay models shown in the photos, therefore final impressions are yet to be finalized; however, Mr. Bailey is planning to use inspiration from West African statues for the eyes.

Mr. Phillips shared thoughts during the subcommittee meeting on the maquettes and their relation to his mother, her behind-the-scenes work, and how that influenced his preferences on the two maquettes. She was an active listener, very thoughtful and he believes the sitting maquette best reflected her life in the public sector and provides an elegant pose. The standing maquette has a floating plate that is representative of a desk she is leaning against. A lot of the current statues around the Capitol and UW Campus are standing. Safety concerns, maintenance, and types of materials were also discussed. Discussion was had in terms of viewing these as public art in connection to the other pieces already on the Capitol Grounds and how the statues read or may be interpreted from a public point of view, especially in regard to her standing versus sitting. The Task Force will use the Subcommittee's feedback to inform their final recommendation that will be reviewed by SCERB at the next meeting.

Representative Loudeneck noted her appreciation for both maquettes as well as the family's input on the two designs. She noted that while this statue is their gift to the State, the primary focus from SCERB's point of view is the aesthetic. Senator Agard also noted her appreciation of the thoughtfulness of these designs and this effort but noted that the State does have a history of the public engaging with statues around town and inquired how the Task Force anticipates this and plans to combat it so that the final statue is safe for people to take photos or interact with. Representative Loudeneck also inquired about the base height. The estimated height for the seated maquette is 40" for the base and 69" for the statue itself. Mr. Bailey noted that based on scale of her height to the statue, this is proportional to capture her real-life petite frame and stature. Mr. Overland noted that the Subcommittee did discuss these various concerns and they will continue to revisit as there is further review and opportunities for input on the final proposal. The goal is to bring a final recommendation on the maquette at a potential meeting in December.

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

State Capitol Vegetable Garden – As it was approved at the April meeting, the State Capitol Vegetable Garden was authorized for planting for the 2022 growing season at the current King Street location. A photo of the garden was presented to the board to show the status of the garden, its visual appeal and maintenance, which is much improved compared to previous years. Representative Loudeneck's office has received no complaints this growing season and she reviewed it often and reported that it was well kept and maintained.

**Motion #2:** Mr. Fernholz moved to approve the Vegetable Garden for the 2023 growing season, with the same stipulations as adopted in 2022. Seconded by Representative Subeck.

**Motion #2 approved by unanimous voice vote.**

Executive Residence Landscape Plan & Memorial Garden – The plaque has been mounted on the stone in the Memorial Garden, as seen by the photo presented. The board thought it looked beautiful.

Shoreline Restoration Plan – The board was presented a photo of the shoreline after much of the Phase 1 work this summer. All the native plantings are along the shoreline side of the walkway. Ms. Reed inquired if the amount of riprap is final or if more will need to be added and Mr. Fernholz confirmed this is the final amount. There was also a question about the growing height of the native plantings and Mr. Siller noted that the plantings vary in height, but to allow light filtration, will not grow any higher than 16-24”. Representative Loudenbeck inquired about the timeline for Phase 2 and Mr. Siller noted it will plan to begin in 2023 with completion by Summer or Fall. Representative Loudenbeck asked for this item to be brought back for another update in the spring for the new board members.

**Furniture, Finishes & Art** / Ms. Marcel Maul

At the September 26, 2022 subcommittee meeting, the group voted to formally change the name of the “Furniture and Finishes Subcommittee” to the “Furniture, Finishes and Art Subcommittee.” Ms. Maul presented an overview of the following items.

State Capitol Proposed Art Display Policy – The Subcommittee met on July 29, 2022 to review and discuss a new policy for requests for art (regardless of medium) to be displayed in public spaces at the State Capitol. A draft of the policy was presented to the board, and it is the Subcommittee’s recommendation to adopt this policy moving forward.

Representative Subeck wanted to clarify if this policy only applies to installations for items that would be displayed for 30 days or more and Mr. Rittel confirmed that was correct and that anything less would go through the normal DOA permit process. Senator Agard asked who decides to extend the timelines if desired and Ms. Maul noted any allowance would come from the majority of the board. She also inquired if requests would have to line up with future board meetings and Ms. Maul confirmed that requests would. Representative Loudenbeck noted she is comfortable with the policy but has some concern that this policy would create an open call for organizations to now inundate SCERB with requests. Mr. Rittel and Ms. Veltum noted that terms of “significant works of art” could be added to the policy, but also DOA in the past has presented this process to requestors and often it will deter those requests from formal submittal, therefore there is not significant concern with this opening up the gates for requests. Mr. Kay also wanted to confirm that this policy is for art displays in public spaces only, not legislative offices, which was confirmed.

There was also a lengthy discussion brought up by Senator Kooyenga regarding the potential scenario where the art is never picked back up by the requestor after the display period has ended and if there should be an element within the contract or policy that includes how the art would be returned or potentially disposed of. Mr. Rittel noted that DOA currently has policies in place regarding abandoned property (be it art or otherwise) that would could cover this aspect and therefore adding in a second clause to this specific policy, when there is one that already exists, might be confusing. Ms. Maul noted that the subcommittee could add a clause that anything not picked up after the designated timeframe would become abandoned unclaimed property and default to DOA's current policies.

Lastly, the board had some questions regarding insurance for such displays and Mr. Rittel noted the State does not own any of these potential pieces or have any requirement to insure them, therefore it's the responsibility of the artist (if it meets the threshold for insurance) should they choose to go that route.

The board would like to review this policy again at the next meeting with the revised language included before making a final motion for approval.

Art & Furniture Acceptance Policy – The Subcommittee met on September 26, 2022 to review and discuss a new policy regarding requests for acceptances of art and/or furnishings. The Art Acceptance Policy covers requests for the acceptance of art (regardless of medium) into the Department of Administration's (DOA) state-owned art collection. Sections of this policy also include SCERB's authority on Art Removal, Criteria for Deaccessioning, and Methods of Art Disposition. The Furniture Acceptance Policy allows SCERB to direct DOA to take possession of any furnishings to which the department has title under s.16.838(2), to restore any furnishings in the department's possession, if necessary, and to place any such furnishing in the State Capitol, Executive Residence, or in storage as specified by SCERB. Sections of this policy also include guidelines regarding Transfer of Possession, and Restoration or Conservation of Historically Significant Furnishings.

The Subcommittee recommends the SCERB Art and Furniture Acceptance Policy with the state's disposition statement included, as presented.

**Motion #3:** Mr. Overland moved to approve the Art and Furniture Acceptance Policy as presented. Seconded by Representative Subeck.

**Motion #3 was approved by unanimous voice vote.**

Executive Residence Art Donation: "Welcome Guest" – This request was originally presented to the Subcommittee at their July 29, 2022 meeting. An oil painting titled "Welcome Guest" was submitted by Iraqi Refugee and Artist, Nima Ghazai, to Governor and First Lady Evers in hopes of being donated and accepted by the State of Wisconsin. The painting, as presented, depicts a traditional Arab coffee serving set and some dates, a

traditional welcoming gesture of this culture. The Subcommittee decided at that time to defer this item until a proper Art Acceptance Policy was put in place.

At the September 26, 2022 subcommittee meeting, this item was discussed at length. Ultimately, per the guidelines set in the policy, and now approved by the board, the Subcommittee recommends the rejection of oil painting “Welcome Guest” by artist Nima Ghazai to the State of Wisconsin Art Collection. The new policy indicates that only Subcommittee recommendations need Board approval so no formal motion was required.

Senator Agard did ask how often SCERB receives such requests and Ms. Marcel noted that there have been two requests received from this administration, but that it varies depending on the administration. She also asked if the First Family automatically deferred this request to SCERB or if they reviewed it and Ms. Maul and Mr. Rittel noted that the First Family’s standard blanket policy is not to accept any personal donations, which is why this item has been deferred to the Board and Subcommittee. Representative Subeck inquired about the subcommittee’s discussion to reject the item and Ms. Veltum noted that the basis of the decision, after a lengthy discussion, had to do with the significance to Wisconsin history criteria set up in the policy.

State Capitol GAR Room MOLLUS Art Installation – This item was originally brought to the board for consideration at the April meeting but was deferred until a formal Art Policy could be developed and implemented. Per the policy that was approved above, the board was able to revisit this proposal to potentially display up to six portraits of US Civil War Generals in the GAR Room at the Capitol.

Senator Agard inquired about the current timeline and when the restoration/conservation of these portraits will be complete. Ms. Maul noted WDVA only has one portrait completed and are working on the others, therefore if SCERB wanted to postpone a final decision until the State Capitol Art Display Policy is finalized, that timeline would work well to revisit this at future date. The board agreed to defer this to a future meeting.

State Capitol Robert M. La Follette Statue Plaque – This item too was originally presented at the April meeting and deferred until the Wisconsin Historical Society could confirm any present family relations and if they approved of the proposed plaque language. It was confirmed to the board that two living grandchildren have reviewed and support the proposed plaque. Therefore, the Subcommittee recommends the addition of a bronze plaque as depicted, to be mounted below the engraving on the West face of the existing statue base. Installation would likely not take place until mid-2023 and a potential dedication ceremony would extend invitations to his living family. There was also a question of payment of the plaque and Mr. Rittel confirmed that Secretary of State, Doug LaFollete, will lead the fundraising effort to cover the expenses of creating and installation of the plaque.

**Motion #4:** Senator Agard moved to approve the subcommittee’s recommendation as presented. Seconded by Representative Subeck.

**Motion #4 was approved by unanimous voice vote.**

## 5. State Capitol Updates

Mr. Tom List and Mr. Darrin Smith provided updates for the projects listed below.

- Reserved Stall Painting – This project is 95% complete and should finish up this month.
- AED/First Aid & Sharps Locations – The AED Units have been deployed and the Sharps install is currently in progress. This project should be completed by this winter. Representative Duchow was very happy the AEDs have been installed, but inquired about how staff know where they’re located or if training can be provided on how to use them. Mr. Rittel noted that each tenant of the Capitol has an emergency procedures manual via the Sergeant’s office, and therefore he would defer that to each appropriate body on how those trainings or materials are handled. Representative Loudenbeck recommended that maybe the Legislative SCERB members release a communication and that the Sergeant’s office offer some sort of training from Capitol Police.
- Sound System Upgrade – The pre-engineering for this project is complete and DOA is planning to submit this project for the December State Building Commission (SBC) meeting.
- Promenade Masonry Repairs Phase II – The repairs along Wisconsin Avenue are currently in progress and the project will hopefully be completed in before the winter.
- Window Repairs – This project is currently in progress and will hopefully be completed in the next few weeks.
- Assembly Office Furniture – This project has been completed.
- Plaster Ceiling & Decorative Painting Repairs – The plaster work for this project has been completed. The Decorative Painting project on the Ground Floor is being submitted by DOA for the December SBC meeting.
- Drapery, Blinds & Window Film – This project is being slated for an early 2023 SBC meeting; however, installation will depend on manufacturing lead times but is slated for late 2023 or early 2024.
- Exterior Cleaning & Bird netting – This project is being submitted by DOA for the December SBC meeting with completion anticipated for Summer 2023.
- Skylight Replacements – This project is being submitted by DOA for the December SBC meeting with completion anticipated for Summer/Fall 2023.
- Drain Line Repairs – Ongoing maintenance and repairs will continue until future balustrade repair projects are completed.
- Lighting Controller Replacements – The engineering component of this project has been completed and the field testing is currently in progress. Installation is slated for early 2023.
- Star Memorial Garden Plaque – The stone’s arrival is forthcoming, and the replacement plaque is expected in January 2023 due to foundry delays.

- WI Law Enforcement Memorial Restoration – This project has been completed. The stone color difference will be re-evaluated in Spring 2023 for possible mitigation steps.
- Universal Changing Station – This project is currently in progress with completion anticipated for Spring 2023.
- Badger Plaque – This project has been completed.
- North Wing Flooring Replacements – This is being submitted for A/E Selection in December, with the project targeted to kick off in Summer 2023.

Senator Agard brought up a discussion of potentially installing NARCAN kits in the Capitol, similar to what is being done on campus. There was a lengthy discussion that Capitol Police do have these in the squads and building, are trained to handle such situations, and should be the first party to be called in such instances as a call to 911 or directly to dispatch allows the initiation of emergency response as well.

## **6. Executive Residence Updates**

Mr. Tom List and Mr. Matt Siller provided updates for the projects listed below.

- Window Repairs - The replacement is in progress with six sashes scheduled to be installed by DOA skilled trades this fall. The scope of the project has been expanded to address other areas of concern, with seven additional mahogany sashes having been ordered in August 2022.
- Lakeshore Stabilization – The riprap portion of this project was completed in August. The native planting portion of the project was performed over two dates in September by Resource Energy Solutions, UW Extension Lakes, Clean Lakes Alliance, and Rock River Coalition in conjunction with the Residence grounds team.

## **7. 2023-25 Capital Budget**

Mr. Ted Crawford provided an overview of several projects being submitted for the 2023-25 Capital Budget.

### **Capitol**

- Capitol Park Exterior Lighting Upgrade – The A/E On-Call is currently working on the program statement and cost options; and targeted for 2024 for installation.
- West Wing Flooring Replacement – This is following the North Wing replacement.
- Roof & Observation Deck Level Masonry Repairs – This project will be phased from the bottom to the top of the Capitol.
- Cherry Grit Balustrade Sidewalk Replacement – This project would include the replacement of 38,500 SF of existing deteriorating “cherry grit” sidewalk at the balustrade around the full perimeter of the Capitol Building and 12,350 SF of existing deteriorating “cherry grit” concrete the King Street and South Hamilton wind approach sidewalks. The existing below grade storm sewer piping below the balustrade sidewalks will also be replaced as current blockages and/or deterioration are causing basement and tunnel leak issues.

- **Data Cabling Upgrade** - Existing cabling in the Capitol is significantly behind the times and insufficient to handle the bandwidth and speed requirements of our current digital age. 50% of existing cabling is CAT 3 and was originally run for traditional phone connections. It has no data capability whatsoever. 50% of the existing cabling is CAT 5. It has but 10% of the data speed and only 20% of the data capacity of the proposed cabling replacement. This project would replace all existing cabling with advanced CAT 6 cabling to adequately and securely communicate in all the daily tasks of governing the state and serving its citizens. Representative Subeck inquired if there's a higher grade of CAT that's being factored in order to prolong the use so that this project is not installing something that would be outdated in a few years. Mr. Crawford stated that this is what the A/E will review when the project is online, but anything reviewed ideally hopes to have a useful life of 20-30 years. Mr. Rittel explained that this project is also essentially doubling the amount of data provided by using CAT 6 to replace both CAT 3 and 5. This project will also review cell use and mobile connectivity and utilize measures to provide better support.

#### **8. Other Business**

Next meeting is anticipated for December to host Elections for SCERB Officers.

#### **9. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 2:33pm.