

State Capitol and Executive Residence Board
State Capitol – 412 East
November 1, 2021 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 1:00pm. 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. Fernholz, Mr. Kay, Ms. Neitzel, Mr. Overland, Ms. Reed, Ms. Sager, Mr. Siggelkow, Ms. Torstveit and Ms. Veltum.

Members Absent: Mr. Asad

Guests Present: Mr. Jason Rittel, DOA-DFTS; Mr. Ted Crawford, DOA-DFTS; Danielle Zimmerman, Office of Representative Loudenbeck; Sandy Lonergan and Chris Rochester, Office of Senator Kooyenga; Aaron Collins and Dana Craig, Office of Senator Agard; Alex Richter, Office of Representative Duchow; Mr. Dave Endres, Chair of the Vel Phillips Task Force; Mr. Michael Phillips, son of Vel Phillips and Vel Phillips Task Force; Marilu Knode, Vel Phillips Task Force; Jake Brown, Vel Phillips Task Force; Millie Coby, Vel Phillips Task Force.

3. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes (January 25, 2021)

Motion #1: Senator Agard moved to approve the minutes from January 25, 2021 as presented. Seconded by Ms. Torstveit.

Motion #1 was approved by unanimous voice vote.

4. Vice Chair Elections

Representative Loudenbeck opened the floor for nominations for the Legislative Vice Chair. Representative Subeck nominated Senator Agard. Ms. Neitzel seconded the nomination. No objections were noted, and no other nominations were made.

Motion #2: Representative Loudenbeck moved to approve a unanimous ballot to elect Senator Agard as Legislative Vice Chair. Seconded by Mr. Kay.

Motion #2 was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Representative Loudenbeck opened the floor again for the Public Vice Chair. Ms. Torstveit nominated Arlan Kay. Mr. Overland seconded the nomination. No objections were noted, and no other nominations were made.

Motion #3: Representative Loudenbeck moved to approve a unanimous ballot to elect Arlan Kay as Public Vice Chair. Seconded by Representative Subeck.

Motion #3 was approved by unanimous voice vote.

5. Subcommittee Reports

There were no updates to report for the Furniture and Finishes or Garden Master Planning & Capitol Park subcommittees.

Ms. Torstveit provided an overview of the Vel Phillips Statue Proposal Subcommittee. Members of the Vel Phillips Task Force were also present to provide a few words supporting this proposal and project. The subcommittee met twice since the last SCERB meeting where they reviewed several items including: proposed and alternative locations, current interior and exterior monument policies, design and construction specifications, the selected artist's background and experience, and proposed plaque language. They also viewed a mockup provided by the Department of Administration (DOA) based on the current design to provide a sense of scale relative to the other statues on the Capitol grounds.

At their second meeting, the subcommittee made several motions to provide final recommendations to the Board on five key points. As Ms. Torstveit presented, they include:

- 1) Recommend approval of an exemption to the exterior monuments policy to allow a Vel Phillips statue.
- 2) Recommend approval of the South Hamilton location for the Vel Phillips statue.
- 3) Recommend approval in concept of the accomplishments and motivations quote for the Vel Phillips statue inscription to be applied to the plaque once approved by the subcommittee.
- 4) Recommend approval of Radcliffe Bailey as the Vel Phillips statue artist as presented by the Task Force Art Team with tentative scheduled of further design approval.
- 5) Recommend that the Board delegate oversight of the Vel Phillips statue design and construction to the Vel Phillips Subcommittee and DOA to ensure that material selections are appropriate and conform to the State Capitol Vel Phillips statue concept documentation and that the Vel Phillips Task Force Art Team provide a mock-ete and renderings for subcommittee approval with timeline.

The Board then took a short break from the conference room to tour the Capitol Grounds. They were able to view the newly restored Hans Christian Heg and Forward statues, as well as the mockup in the proposed location of the Vel Phillips statue. They also were able to view the damage to the Law Enforcement Memorial.

Ms. Neitzel had some questions about the scale of the statue and how that is developed. Ms. Torstveit reaffirmed that this will be the responsibility of the Subcommittee working with the Task Force and DOA, and that it is a collaborative effort to determine final, proper design and scale.

Motion #4: Ms. Torstveit moved to approve the recommendations made by the Subcommittee. Seconded by Ms. Neitzel.

Motion #4 was approved by unanimous roll call vote.

SCERB also has an ADA Signage Subcommittee, which is currently inactive, and a newly created SCERB Booklet Subcommittee. Members were given the opportunity to re-sign up for all subcommittees.

6. State Capitol Updates

Mr. Crawford and Mr. Rittel provided updates regarding the following projects at the State Capitol.

- 10-Year Plan – The 10-year plan spans 2017-2027 and details of this were presented in the packet provided to the Board. Senator Agard inquired about the draperies and the poor appearance from outside of the Capitol. Mr. Rittel explained that life safety issues are taken up as first priority and then once those are completed, the more decorative projects are taken up. This has likely been the cause of delay in getting this project started. Ms. Torstveit asked for the current balance of the Capitol Restoration fund, which Ms. Veltum noted is currently \$195,148.47.
- Promenade Masonry Repairs - The original scope of this project included balustrade joint repair and stone cleaning, as well as resetting at the East Washington entrance, the North Hamilton walkway, and the promenade balustrade in between. The project was bid earlier this spring and came in well under budget. Scope was added to include the entire promenade balustrade to efficiently utilize the remaining budgeted funds while the contractor remained mobilized. This original scope of the project just wrapped up last month and it is anticipated that additional phases of this project will be added and completed over the next two years.
- Fire Panel System Upgrades – This project is nearly complete. The only portion remaining is changing the Rotunda horns to a code-compliant three-tone pattern.
- Windowsill Repairs – There are 104 existing exterior windowsills that were determined to be past repair and in need of replacement. The project will be bid in the coming weeks with construction anticipated to begin in the spring. Ms. Torstveit asked if the UV Films that were installed previously will be damaged or replaced

during this project. Mr. Crawford noted that the current window films are not to be touched and should remain intact throughout this project.

- Clocks – This project has been completed. Staff are also building extra clocks for backstock in case of future failure.
- Assembly Office Furniture – The move-in test is tentatively scheduled to occur before the end of the year. Carly Wood is doing the work on this project and everything is anticipated to be finished by spring.
- Plaster Ceiling and Decorative Painting Repairs – All 64 ceiling panels were inspected on the ground floor and it was identified that delamination of the plaster and decorative paint finishes will require repair and restoration. The project was sent out for bid last month and should be completed by fall 2022.
- Drain Line Repairs – Camera investigations of storm water piping at the East Washington portico has discovered some failure in the pipe. A project will be designed this winter and repairs will be completed next summer. Temporary measures to stabilize the situation have already been completed.
- Wisconsin Law Enforcement Memorial Restoration - The memorial was damaged in the civil unrest and protests that occurred in the summer of 2020. Damaged portions of the memorial as noted on the tour are to be replaced and irrigation will be added to the planter. The project will be bid in the coming weeks and construction is scheduled to be complete by April 30, 2022, prior to the Wisconsin Law Enforcement Memorial dedication ceremony scheduled for May 20, 2022. If material delays occur, the repairs will be pushed until after the May ceremony.
- Hans Christian Heg & Forward Statue Restoration - The Forward and Hans Christian Heg statues were both reinstalled the morning of September 21, 2021. The restoration process for the statues took a little longer than originally anticipated due to additional damage identified to the Hans Christian Heg statue as they worked to get the statue upright on the base. Severe bending of the metal occurred when the statue was pulled down from the base during the protests. Venus Bronze carefully corrected these areas to ensure the statue was restored to the correct stance. All items to both the Forward and Heg statue that needed to be recast (fingers, head and heel spur) were done successfully allowing the statues to be restored to nearly original conditions. The final reports for the NEA and NEH grant awards of \$30,000 each are in the process of being submitted and the \$13,365 in funds through the Wisconsin Historical Society fundraiser are being transferred to the Restoration Fund to offset remaining costs to restore the statues. The total cost to restore both statues was \$82,280.

Mr. Kay inquired about a secondary head for the Heg statue and if DOA has considered digitizing secondary statues to have in case of future wear and tear, damage, etc. Ms. Veltum explained that DOA is in possession of secondary molds for both statues that could be used in the future if need be. Digitizing is not currently planned at this time. Ms. Neitzel also inquired if the bases were modified to make it harder to remove the statues in the future. Ms. Veltum noted that additional pins

were placed on the base of the Heg statue and the nuts on the Forward statue had additional set screws added to prevent removal of the nuts. Rep. Subeck asked if there is any working being done in advance to proactively protect and maybe replace the Vel Phillips statue if it were to experience any damage in the future and Ms. Veltum indicated that the molds, and any possible future digitization, would become the property of DOA for these exact purposes.

7. Executive Residence Updates

Mr. Crawford and Mr. Rittel also provided updates for the following projects at the Executive Residence.

- Window Repairs - This project includes the replacement of 11 mahogany window sashes. The project was bid in January but like most other current projects, long lead times for materials have caused significant schedule delays. The installation is currently underway with painting to immediately follow.
- Front Drainage Project – This project included the installation of four rain gardens and associated plantings which were completed in August.
- Fiber Connectivity Upgrade – This project upgraded buried copper internet line to fiber at no cost as part of a program offered through Spectrum. This was needed for increased needs for video conferencing and video security cameras. This project was completed in December 2020.
- Drawing Room Floor Refinishing - With rugs and the sun bleaching of the floor, the refinishing restored the natural wood color and ensured it is consistent throughout. This project was just completed in September.

8. State Capitol Items for Consideration

The following items at the State Capitol building were presented to the board by Mr. Rittel.

- Reserved Stall Painting – Currently, parking around the driveways and Capitol square are reserved for staff assignment (Senator, Assembly, Governor’s office) as well as ADA visitors and hourly or 10-minute parking visitors. To overcome some issues with visitors using staff-assigned parking, DOA has performed a sample installation by painting “RESERVED” in front of several parking stalls in sample locations. Those who occupy those parking stalls have since experienced less issues and it is therefore recommended that this wording be added to each staff-assigned stall on all State Capitol driveways. The painting will be in the same size, color and font as the current test samples. Mr. Kay asked if this painting addition would also be added to the parking stalls around the Capitol Square and Mr. Rittel noted that this was not included in the current proposal but could be explored by the Board if they so wish.

Motion #5: Senator Agard moved to implement the “RESERVED” paintings on all reserved parking stalls within the State Capitol driveways as well as around the Capitol Square. Seconded by Representative Duchow.

Motion #5 was approved by unanimous voice vote.

- AED and First Aid Kits– There are currently seven AED and First Aid Kit locations throughout the State Capitol. To better serve visitors and employees in need of an AED and to increase preparedness, there are several proposed recommendations including:
 - Propose relocation of the South Wing AED and First Aid Kits from the left side of the Wing to the right side, to promote consistency in placement and prevent confusion in the event of an emergency.
 - Propose the addition of AED and First Aid Kits to the North and East Wings on the right side of the Wing to promote consistency in placement and decrease response time in the event of an emergency.
 - Propose the addition of AED and First Aid Kits in all Wings on the First Floor due to the large number of people and events on the First Floor.
 - Propose replacement of existing First Aid Kits with Stop the Bleed Kits.

The current proposed AED unit that will be installed, similar to other state office buildings, is the Cardiac Science Powerheart G5. All of the AED and First Aid Kit locations will also be secured with wireless silent alarms that will alert the State Capitol Police dispatch, quickening the response time from officers as well notifications to EMS. In total, DOA is looking to install 16 Stop the Bleed Kits and 10 Cardiac Science Powerheart G5 units; these will be accompanied by 16 wireless silent alarms.

Representative Duchow was very passionate about this project and brought it to light to be explored as the Capitol is an extensively large building. She noted the importance of serving the large community of visitors the Capitol experiences and their potential emergency needs.

Motion #6: Representative Duchow moved that SCERB follow the recommendations from DOA. Seconded by Senator Agard.

Motion #6 was approved by unanimous voice vote.

- Sharps Disposal Locations – Currently, there is only one Sharps Disposal Container in the Capitol, located near the Capitol Police Dispatch in the South basement. To better serve visitors and employees, it is DOA’s recommendation to add 13 new Sharps Dispensers, one in each of the men’s and women’s restrooms on every floor of the Capitol (Basement through 4th Floor), as well as in the Family/ADA restroom on the ground floor. A list of the designated restrooms will be provided at the Tour Desk as well as each Sergeant’s Office to distribute if necessary.

Several board members raised concerns about signage and ease of access to these dispensers, noting it might not be obvious for visitors to refer to the Tour Desk or Sergeant's Offices for this information. Discussion was had that it might be more helpful to post some sort of signage in restrooms without the dispensers to indicate where dispensers can be found. Mr. Rittel explained that signage could be posted to the mirrors within such restrooms.

There were also some questions regarding how these dispensers would be affixed to the walls, especially the restrooms that have marble walls. Mr. Rittel noted the dispensers are lighter in weight than the current feminine hygiene dispensers that use an adhesive versus a drill mount and that these dispensers will likely be installed the same way and could be reversible and/or removed without damage. Representative Loudenbeck inquired if installation would be better within the individual stalls and Mr. Rittel noted that it could present a conflict if the stall is currently being used and a visitor needs to dispose of their sharps.

Motion #7: Senator Agard moved to approve the recommendations provided by DOA as well as install mirror stickers in restrooms that do not have dispensers to provide notice of restroom locations that do. Seconded by Representative Subeck.

Motion #7 was approved by unanimous voice vote. (Ms. Sager is noted as Absent for the remainder of the meeting and corresponding motions).

Senator Agard noted concern about school groups and other visitors who have wheelchair-bound children and the fact that the Capitol does not have adult-sized or adjustable changing tables. She would like to see this reviewed as a project in the future to keep up with the positive changes being made in the Capitol to accommodate visitors of all needs. Mr. Rittel noted that this type of project is currently on DOA's working list and they have already determined proposed locations and are working with manufactures to provide a test unit. This is planned to be presented to the Board at the next meeting.

9. Executive Residence Items for Consideration

The following items at the Executive Residence were presented by Mr. Rittel.

- Memorial Garden Plaque – A proposal from the First Family has come forward to designate garden space on the south side of the lawn as a Memorial Garden to commemorate those who have served Wisconsin's Governors and their families. In addition, there is a proposed bronze plaque that would be affixed to a granite stone, of which would be paid by WERF. The garden space currently resides where two previous pine trees had to be removed due to poor health and deterioration. There was a robust discussion surrounding the current Garden Master Plan and if there were any outstanding policies regarding adding monuments or plaques to the Executive

Residence. Through this discussion, it was determined that this item would require further review.

Motion #8: Representative Loudenbeck moved to defer this item to the Garden Master Planning & Capitol Park Subcommittee for further review where they will then come back to the board with final recommendation. Seconded by Mr. Kay.

Motion #8 approved by unanimous voice vote.

- State Capitol Painting to State Inventory – WERF received a donation of a watercolor painting titled “Rainbow Pride Flag” by artist Julia Taylor. In order to accept the painting into the State’s Art Inventory, SCERB needs to provide approval. Ms. Torstveit inquired as to how many pieces we currently have in the inventory, and it was estimated to be somewhere around 100 pieces, all of which are cataloged and properly cared for at the State Archive Preservation Facility. There are various pieces within this inventory that aren’t always on display or are rotated in and out depending on the occupants of the Residence. Senator Agard wanted to know what would happen if SCERB rejected this addition and Ms. Veltum clarified that WERF cannot have assets and that the artist would have to be notified.

Motion #9: Senator Agard moved to accept this painting to the State’s Art Inventory. Seconded by Representative Subeck.

Motion #9 was approved by unanimous voice vote.

10. Other Business

Capitol King Street Vegetable Garden - Representative Loudenbeck asked that this annual item be reviewed. As of late, there have been some complaints that the garden has not been well maintained and there has been some discussion at the idea of removing the garden altogether. Ms. Veltum noted that DOA has not yet received a permit to carry on the garden this year. There were several comments made from members that were both for and opposed to carrying on the garden. Senator Agard and Representative Subeck made passionate comments about the importance of the garden from an education standpoint as well as its ability to provide food for the local community. Representatives Loudenbeck and Duchow noted the Capitol’s pristine grounds and how this garden, in its recent disrepair, may not be the most appropriate.

Mr. Overland inquired as to when this vegetable garden was established and Mr. Kay noted it has been approximately 15 years, originally starting at the South Hamilton corner of the Capitol and then moving to the current King Street location. He noted that at the beginning, the garden was much more well-kept and maintained than it has been in recent years. The garden was an educational piece on display at the largest farmer’s market in the country. After a lengthy discussion, several members indicated that while the garden

maybe shouldn't be removed at this time, there should be some additional parameters explored and set in place in regard to the permitting process, maintenance expectations, and communications provided to those organizations approved for a permit. An idea was also optioned to further involve DOA in this process, if necessary, as DOA's sole responsibility at this point is just to water the garden along with the others on the Capitol grounds.

Mr. Fernholz moved to approve the garden one more year. Seconded by Mr. Kay. This motion was discussed further and revised to state the following:

Motion #10: Ms. Torstveit moved to revise Mr. Fernholz's motion and defer this to the Garden Master Planning & Capitol Park Subcommittee to vet this process, look at any current permits submitted, and then come back to the board with a recommendation. Mr. Fernholz agreed to this revision. Seconded by Mr. Kay.

Motion #10 approved by unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Rittel noted that any forthcoming permits shall be placed on hold to help allow the Subcommittee to provide its recommendations regarding the garden's usage, maintenance care, etc. The board will plan to revisit this item at the spring meeting to allow any future permit holders the time for proper plantings.

Capitol Tree – Ms. Veltum noted that after last year's decision to have no tree at the Capitol due to COVID restrictions, this year's tree is already in process and is planned to be displayed at the Capitol Rotunda this holiday season.

11. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:23pm.