

State Capitol and Executive Residence Board
State Capitol – GAR Hall 417 North
December 13, 2022 Minutes

1. Call to Order

The meeting of the State Capitol and Executive Residence Board was called to order by the Legislative Chairperson, Representative Loudenbeck, at 1:03pm. The meeting was a hybrid meeting taking place both in the State Capitol as well as via video conference.

2. Roll Call

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

Members Present: Senator Roys, Senator Jagler, Senator Wanggaard, Representative Loudenbeck, Representative Duchow, Representative Subeck, Mr. Fernholz, Mr. Kay, Mr. Overland, Ms. Reed, Ms. Uselmann, Ms. Maul, Mr. List and Ms. Wolf

Members Absent: Mr. Asad, Ms. Sager and Mr. Siggelkow

Guests Present: Mr. Jason Rittel, DOA-DFTS; Mr. Matt Siller, DOA-DFTS; Mr. Darrin Smith, DOA-DFTS; Danielle Zimmerman, Office of Representative Loudenbeck; Cecely Castillo, Office of Senator Roys; Jeanine Schneider, Office of Representative Subeck; Mr. Dave Endres, Vel Phillips Task Force; Marilu Knode, Vel Phillips Task Force; Tom Koss, Legislative Council; Ethan Lauer, Legislative Council; Dean Collins, MOLLUS Chaplain; Kenn Hampton, WDVA Wisconsin Veterans Museum

3. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes (October 6, 2022)

Motion #1: Representative Loudenbeck moved to approve the minutes from October 6, 2022. Seconded by Ms. Maul.

Motion #1 was approved by unanimous voice vote.

4. Introduction of New Members

Representative Loudenbeck informed the members of some changes on the board. Replacing Senator Roger Roth is Senator John Jagler; replacing Senator Dale Kooyenga is Senator Van Wanggaard; and replacing Senator Melissa Agard is Senator Kelda Roys. Paula Veltum has also been replaced by Megan Wolf as SCERB Secretary and Tom List has been appointed as DOA's Chief Architect Designee, filling this longstanding vacancy on the board. Representative thanked each of the new members for their willingness to serve and provided much appreciation to the previous members and all of their efforts over the years.

5. Subcommittee Reports and Sign-Up

Due to new membership on the board, a subcommittee sign-up sheet was distributed.

Vel Phillips Statue Proposal / Mr. Christian Overland

As previously discussed at the October board meeting, the goal of this meeting was to provide a final recommendation on the design of the Vel Phillips statue; however, due to some recent setbacks, Mr. Overland informed the board that a recommendation will likely not occur until spring.

In mid-November, Dave Endres (Chair of the Vel Phillips Art Committee) informed the Subcommittee that Mr. Radcliff Bailey (artist) had an illness that slowed down the progress of further developing the statue design, which included incorporating some of the feedback and requested design changes discussed with the Subcommittee in October. He also noted that Mr. Bailey was having trouble sourcing the right stone block for a base. Due to these complications, the Vel Phillips Art Committee was not confident that the quality artistic process of Mr. Bailey could be finished and reviewed in time for this meeting. Their current goal is to reconvene with the Subcommittee sometime in January/February 2023 to present a final design. The Subcommittee would then target providing a final recommendation to the board at a future spring meeting. The Art Committee remains confident that the project will remain on track as planned for installation sometime in late 2023 or early 2024.

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

Rooted Capital Vegetable Garden Plan 2023 Update – Rooted has submitted their planting plan and operating/maintenance protocols to DOA for the 2023 growing season, which have been reviewed and approved.

Shoreline Restoration Plan Phase 2 Update on Plantings – The board was provided a brief overview of the Shoreline Restoration Plan Phase 2 plantings and image.

Furniture, Finishes & Art / Ms. Marcel Maul

Revised State Capitol Proposed Art Display Policy – This item was originally proposed at the October meeting; however, the board provided various comments about the policy that required some revisions. Ms. Maul indicated that new language includes limiting displays to “significant works” that meet the criteria established in the Art Acceptance Policy. The policy also notes that if donations are not retrieved after the display period, they are considered “abandoned property” and will abide by the current policies enforced by DOA and Capitol Police.

Representative Subeck inquired about the process that leads to SCERB’s review of such requests and noted concern with anticipating large volumes of requests in the future and

how the board would manage such. Ms. Maul and Mr. Smith noted that requests year-to-year vary but generally are minimal. Ms. Maul also noted that because the board only meets a few times a year, any formal inquiries that the subcommittee wanted to forward on for approval would have to overlap with the board's meeting schedule. Per the policy, it is the subcommittee's task to meet and review such requests prior to bringing forward any applicable displays.

Senator Wanggaard also inquired about the definition of "significant works" and Ms. Maul and Mr. Overland indicated that there is a whole realm of criteria that relate to an item's historical significance and appropriateness for the Capitol and the State as a whole. Ms. Overland noted that the WHS reviewed this policy and that it mimics their own. As the Art Acceptance Policy is new from the October meeting, it will be input into the new SCERB Booklet for future reference.

Motion #2: Senator Wanggaard moved to approve the revised State Capitol Art Display Policy as presented. Seconded by Mr. Overland.

Motion #2 was approved by unanimous voice vote.

State Capitol GAR Room MOLLUS Art Installation – Upon approval of the Art Display Policy, the board brought back for discussion a third time the proposed MOLLUS installation in the GAR room. It is the Subcommittee's recommendation to the display four MOLLUS chromolithograph portraits in the State Capitol Grand Army of the Republic (GAR), for a period of 12 months, timing to begin upon conservation completion and installation. Additionally, the Subcommittee recommends the proposed room locations for displaying the art to be both behind the dais and behind the public seating areas of the GAR.

Senator Jagler inquired as to why only four portraits were being considered for approval versus the full six and Ms. Maul noted that placement, lighting, etc. were all factors in the board's previous review. One of the portraits was supposed to be brought to this meeting so that the board could have some frame of reference of size, scale and placement, but due to the weather this could not be accommodated. As of right now, only one portrait has been restored and a second is in the works, but it will likely take some time before this effort for all proposed portraits are complete. Mr. Smith noted that since there are six, DVA might choose to rotate them on display.

Motion #3: Ms. Maul moved to approve the Subcommittee's recommendations as presented. Seconded by Mr. Kay.

Motion #3 was approved by unanimous voice vote.

6. State Capitol Updates

31E Universal Changing Station – Mr. Smith informed the board that the changing station has been purchased and has arrived in the building. The installation will be done by an outside contractor and is planned to be completed by early 2023.

7. SCERB Booklet Update

Two members from the Legislative Council were on hand to review the draft SCERB Booklet provided to the members, Mr. Tom Koss and Mr. Ethan Lauer. The Introduction currently includes the history of SCERB and how board was created, as well as some new information on what SCERB is, who serves and how, the voting procedures, and a record of current policies that have been adopted. The booklet is arranged alphabetically by topic/decision and an index is also included in the back to help navigate. The main body of the booklet organized by four main areas: the Capitol, Capitol Grounds, Exec Res and Exec Res Grounds.

Representative Loudenbeck applauded the Legislative Council's work in putting this initial draft together and recommended the board bring this item back at the next meeting once they've had a chance to review to hopefully approve for publishing and availability on website. Representative Subeck noted that some of the more recent policies were not yet included. It was indicated that this will be a working document and that DOA would provide these updates. Mr. Koss and Mr. Lauer complimented Representative Loudenbeck's office and her staff, Danielle Zimmerman and Emily Anderson, for their monumental efforts to help transcribe what was previously provided by Senator Fred Risser's office, among other documents provided by DOA.

8. Elections

Ms. Wolf opened the floor for nominations for the SCERB Chairperson.

Nomination #1: Representative Loudenbeck nominated Senator Wanggard. Ms. Reed seconded the nomination.

Nomination #2: Ms. Uselmann nominated Representative Subeck. Seconded by Senator Roys.

No other nominations were made.

Representative Loudenbeck moved to nominate Senator Wanggard because he has been a great resource for her for the Capitol and Executive Residence. He serves on the WHS Board of Curators and has a great deal of public safety knowledge that would be valuable for the Committee. Mr. Overland also noted that Senator Wanggard is a great leader for the State's history system, voting, education, and historic preservation.

Ms. Uselmann moved to nominate Representative Subeck as a result of conversations with the Governor's Office and how she would be a perfect fit and steadfast advocate for her constituents and their history.

Representative Subeck explained how the continuity within SCERB is important. She and Representative Duchow are the only remaining members after this most recent turnover. Also on a personal level, the Capitol building has been a huge part of her entire adult life. She noted her work on historic preservation through the City Council and is familiar with the guidelines of such processes. She believes in the importance of reviewing such policies, how they've been applied long-term versus in the moment, and how that consistency and continuity should be carried over into such historic buildings like the Capitol.

Senator Wanggaard discussed the importance of knowing where you came from to knowing where you're going, which is why he's always supported the WHS and served on their board. His intentions are to make sure artifacts are secured and properly cared for and displayed. From his work in the Senate, he has been wowed by working in the Capitol and the history that needs to be preserved. Serving on the Board of Curators has been a great education on preservation for the Capitol but the State as a whole and the importance of carrying that on for centuries to come.

A roll call vote was taken. By majority vote (7-6), Representative Subeck was confirmed as SCERB Chairperson.

Votes confirmed for Rep. Subeck: Senator Roys, Representative Subeck, Mr. Fernholz, Mr. Kay, Ms. Uselmann, Ms. Maul and Mr. List

Votes confirmed for Senator Wanggaard: Senator Jagler, Senator Wanggaard, Representative Loudenbeck, Representative Duchow, Mr. Overland, and Ms. Reed

Members Absent and no vote recorded: Mr. Asad, Ms. Sager and Mr. Siggelkow

Ms. Wolf opened up the floor for nominations for the SCERB Legislative Vice-Chair. Representative Loudenbeck nominated Senator Wanggaard. Representative Subeck seconded the nomination. No objections were noted, and no other nominations were made.

Representative Loudenbeck mentioned that SCERB is tasked with putting these historic buildings and the State first and that it is a good balance to have a Representative/Senator and Democrat/Republican to serve together.

By unanimous voice vote, Senator Wanggaard was confirmed as SCERB Legislative Vice-Chair.

Ms. Wolf opened up the floor for nominations for the SCERB Public Vice-Chair. Mr. Fernholz nominated Mr. Arlan Kay. Ms. Uselmann seconded the nomination. No objections were noted, and no other nominations were made.

By unanimous voice vote, Mr. Kay was confirmed as SCERB Public Vice-Chair.

Representative Subeck provided her thanks to Representative Loudenbeck for all her years of service and to Senator Agard for her recent service as the Legislative Vice-Chair.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:57pm.