

State Capitol and Executive Residence Board
State Capitol Room 412 East
May 15, 2023 Minutes – Open Session

1. Call to Order

The meeting of the State Capitol and Executive Residence Board was called to order by the Legislative Chairperson, Representative Lisa Subeck, at 1:00 pm. The meeting was a hybrid meeting taking place both in the State Capitol as well as video conference.

The State Capitol and Executive Residence Board will convene in open session but may move to closed session under Wis. Stat. § 19.85(1)(d) and then reconvene into open session prior to adjournment of this meeting. This notice is intended to inform the public that this meeting will convene in open session, may move to closed session, and then may reconvene in open session. Wis. Stat. § 19.85(2).

2. Introduction of New Members & Appreciation for Outgoing Members

Representative Subeck provided some opening remarks welcoming the newly appointed members of SCERB as well a huge thank you to those who have recently left, especially Marijo Reed for her involvement over the last decade.

3. Roll Call

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

Members Present: Senator Jacque, Senator Roys, Senator Wanggaard, Representative Binsfeld, Representative Duchow, Representative Subeck, Ms. Destree, Mr. Fernholz, Mr. Kay, Mr. List, Mr. Overland, Ms. Maul, Senator Ringhand (Retired), Ms. Sager, Mr. Siggelkow, and Ms. Wolf.

Members Absent: Mr. Asad

Guests Present: Jason Rittel, DOA-DFTS; Matthew Siller, DOA-DFTS; Darrin Smith, DOA-DFTS; Sanjay Olson, DOA-DFTS; Jeanine Schneider, Office of Representative Subeck; Dave Endres, Vel Phillips Task Force; Deputy Chief Christopher Litzkow, Capitol Police; Eric Barbour, Office of Senator Wanggaard

4. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes (December 13, 2022)

Motion #1: Ms. Maul moved to approve the minutes from December 13, 2022. Seconded by Mr. Overland.

Motion #1 was approved by unanimous voice vote.

5. Subcommittee Reports

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

Vel Phillips Statue Proposal | Mr. Christian Overland

Mr. Overland provided a quick update regarding the status of the project and the Subcommittee's steps moving forward. The Subcommittee met on April 26, 2023 and it was determined then that the Task Force is not quite ready to seek final approval from the subcommittee, or subsequently the Board, as the project has experienced a few delays but also there are several important details yet to be finalized for the statue. The final artistic interpretation and design of Vel Phillip's eyes, facial features, and hands cannot be accomplished by the artist, Mr. Bailey, until the fabrication company can produce the item to scale, which will likely take place sometime in early fall. There is also further review needed on the base stone, coloring, and the inclusion of either an inscription or preferably a plaque for the dedication text. The Subcommittee will plan to meet again around September to review the progress on these final details and hopefully come to a consensus on the final recommendation, of which will be brought to the Board for final approval at the fall meeting, likely in October.

Furniture, Finishes & Art | Ms. Marcel Maul

The Subcommittee met on May 10, 2023 to review the following projects, of which Ms. Maul reviewed with the Board.

State Capitol Rotunda Sound System - The intent of this project is to increase the auditory intelligibility and natural sounding capacity of the sound system in the Rotunda by replacing the existing speakers that are 10" tall in 12 locations. Four will be replaced with stacks of three 37" speakers (for a total height of 111") on the marble. The eight speakers currently mounted on the column capitals will also be replaced with eight compact loudspeakers. All replacement speakers and fixtures will once again either be marbleized or gold matched to blend in with the building's finishes, similar to how they are now, and none of the installations will require penetration into the marble or column capitals. Senator Wanggaard inquired about if the speakers themselves were "intelligent" or if the project also includes a sound system that will operate the speakers. Ms. Maul confirmed that a full operating system is included as part of this project and the installation. Mr. Smith also noted that the speakers and system selected are state-of-the art, digitally steered and line arrayed, so each speaker within the stacks can be individually controlled. This project is also just one small part of an overall system replacement within the Capitol. It is the Subcommittee's recommendation to install the new Rotunda Sound System Speakers of the type and design, in the locations as described, and in the manner as described in the packet.

Motion #2: Senator Wanggaard moved to approve the Subcommittee's recommendations as presented. Seconded by Mr. List.

Motion #2 was approved by unanimous voice vote.

State Capitol Drapery Replacements – Back in November 2021, SCERB approved the installation of UV-resistant window film and dual roller shades throughout the Capitol as a means to help protect the draperies as they are currently in extremely poor condition – fading, discolored and brittle. While this component of the project has been completed, the actual draperies, located in 175 windows, now need to be replaced. It was determined that the existing draperies are not historic but reproductions and therefore can simply be replaced with a superior and more durable product. The new drapes will be assembled in three layers – the inboard will be a custom-dyed woven velvet that will match the existing color, the outboard will be a grey linen to match the building’s exterior stone, and the middle layer will be 90% blackout cotton. The custom embroidery and tiebacks will be matched to the existing drapes as well. The budget for this project was approved by the State Building Commission in February 2023 and the project is expected to begin this summer with final completion early next year.

Senator Roys inquired about the fire retardant that will be incorporated into the fabric as there are common health risks associated with such chemicals. Ms. Maul noted that fire retardant is required by code but that the treatment has a 0.01% ounce of chemistry per across one yard of fabric. It is an Alta treatment that is known as a “safe chemistry,” and is a non-reproductive toxicant, non-carcinogenic and not damaging to DNA. This retardant is also free of VOCs, PFAS, solvents, formaldehydes, heavy metals or thalites. It was found to be the best fabric in terms of matching as well as carrying the proper fire safety code requirements. Ms. Destree also inquired about the flame spread rating of this material and how different areas of the building might require different ratings. While Mr. Smith did not have the specifics on this, he did note that the engineers did look into the requirements and thoroughly vetted the proposed materials.

Per the packet and samples provided to the Board, it is the Subcommittee’s recommendation to replace the existing drapes in with the type and design as noted in all 175 windows.

Motion #3: Senator Ringhand moved to approve the Subcommittee’s recommendations as presented. Seconded by Mr. List.

Motion #3 was approved by unanimous voice vote.

ADA Signage | Mr. Ron Siggelkow

The Subcommittee met on April 28, 2023 to review the State Capitol Family/Universal Changing Station Restroom. SCERB approved the installation of a Powered Height Adjustable Universal Changing Table in State Capitol Unisex Restroom 31E on the ground floor back in April 2022. The installation has been completed and now the signage on the restroom door as well as the wayfinding stanchions needs to be modified.

Per the images provided to the Board, an updated directional braille sign/plaque and pictorial insert would be placed in each of the existing stanchions, a wall-mounted directional sign would be placed in the alcove between both restrooms (Men's and Family/Companion Care), and the gold paint label on the restroom door would also be updated. It is the Subcommittee's recommendation that the stanchion signage be modified to reflect 31E as a "Family/Companion Care Restroom Equipped with a Universal Changing Station," and to add a directional wall sign directing patrons to the correct restroom.

The Board did make some comments regarding the wordiness of the proposed signage and how the small text at the bottom of the pictorial insert for the stanchions might be difficult for those who are visually impaired. However, due to the unique nature of this restroom, outside of all the other ADA compliant restrooms in the building, this was deemed the best solution to notice this unique accessibility accommodation. In terms of flow, it was also suggested that the text and braille be flip-flopped so that the "Family/Companion Care Restroom" text come first and sit right under the pictorial insert, and that the "Men's Restroom" text second. This would also be done on the wall-mounted sign for consistency.

Motion #4: Mr. Kay moved to approve the Subcommittee's recommendations as presented with the "Men's Restroom" and "Family/Companion Care Restroom" text flipped on both the stanchions and wall-mounted sign. Seconded by Ms. Maul.

Motion #4 was approved by unanimous voice vote.

6. Other Business

Mr. Overland provided the Board with a quick informational update (as this project is not involved with SCERB) regarding the Wisconsin History Center project. This project is 21 years in the making and is currently at 10% design. This new location will be a great tie into the Capitol and Capitol Square which are historic landmarks. The architecture firm currently on board, SmithGroup in association with Continuum Architects + Planners, has a great background in museum experience. The new building will have 100,000 SF of program space that will include the lobby, retail/gift shop and lunchroom on the first floor; and gallery and exhibit spaces, as well as outdoor terraces and a multi-purpose room on the floors above. The exterior terraces are planned to be used as exhibit and programming space as well. The exterior façade of the building will be a mix of Zinc, stainless steel and glass. The main entrance will be located off Mifflin Street and will have a large outdoor plaza. This project will hopefully be submitted sometime this fall to the State Building Commission when it reaches 35% design.

7. State Capitol Updates | Mr. Darrin Smith

- Promenade Masonry Repairs Phase III – The State Street, West Washington Avenue, and South Hamilton coping and granite steps will begin repairs this summer.

- Promenade Tree Replacements – There are 12 *Autumn Blaze* Maple trees located throughout the Capitol Square that will be replaced with *Acer Miyabei 'Morton,'* more commonly known as the State Street Maple. As of this season, 33 trees have been replaced and the remaining 23 trees will be replaced in future phases over the next two years.
- Assembly Parlor Rusk Painting - In consultation with the Wisconsin Historical Society, DOA Building Management will have the painting of former Senator Jeremiah Rusk appraised for both value and condition to best determine any future conservation efforts needed.
- Window & Sill Repairs - Window repairs are complete and the exterior window painting will recommence this month, with the work being performed by DOA skilled trades.
- Bird Netting & Exterior Cleaning – This project includes repair and replacement of the netting and cleaning of the granite behind the netting. The windowsills and perching areas will also receive improved bird deterrents. The project is set to be rebid this summer with the project expected to commence this fall or Spring 2024. Representative Subeck asked if putting up the scaffolding around the Observation Deck during this project would close it for a period. Mr. Smith noted that while there may be slight disruption, the intent is to keep the Observation Deck open throughout the entirety of the project and maintain that space as best as possible.
- Ground Floor Plaster Ceiling & Decorative Painting Repairs – The plaster repairs are complete, and the decorative paint ceiling restoration will begin this fall with completion by Summer 2024.
- Drapery, Roller Shades, & Window Film – The project is set to bid this summer with replacements to begin in Winter 2023 and completion by the end of 2024.
- Skylight Replacements – This project is for the fourth floor exterior skylights and is set to bid this summer with replacements to begin in Spring 2024, with expected completion by Fall of 2024.
- Drain Line Repairs - Maintenance and repairs are ongoing until future balustrade repair projects are completed.
- King Street Balustrade – The surface sidewalk is failing significantly faster than in other areas. Temporary fixes will be performed to maintain a safe path of travel and minimize further degradation. The repair is scheduled for this month and expected to be completed by June. A comprehensive replacement project is set to occur in Summer 2025.
- Lighting Controller Replacements - Under the direction of DOA Controls, with portions of the work outsourced to a project, the expected completion date is Fall 2024.
- Star Memorial Garden Plaque - The new stone has arrived. The replacement plaque was delayed from the foundry. Installation is expected this summer.
- Irrigation System Repairs – This project is targeting upgrades this fall, with project completion expected in Spring 2024.

- Capitol Architectural Lighting Upgrade – The project is set to bid this fall with LED replacements to begin in 2024 and the expected completion by Spring 2024.
- Capitol Park Exterior Lighting Upgrade – This project is targeting Summer 2024 for LED installation to ensure the Park lighting intentionally compliments the building lighting.
- West Wing Flooring Replacement – This project is planned for the 2023-25 biennium. The North Wing is the current priority that has received temporary patchwork and will likely come back to SCERB for approval.
- Roof & Observation Deck Level Masonry Repairs – This project is planned for the 2023-25 biennium.
- Mechanical, Electrical, and Plumbing Upgrade Projects – This includes a large overhaul project for the systems that date back to the Capitol’s restoration. The following projects are planned for the building: Emergency cooling coil replacement in 1 Air Handling Unit in the East Wing to address age-related failures; Electrical Gear Testing, Maintenance & Cleaning; Air Handler Cooling Replacement; Sanitary System Monitoring Devices; Rebuild all Condensate Traps; Addition of Static & Humidity Pressure Sensors; HVAC Humidity Evaluation and Upgrade; Replace Building Air Compressors with Hydrovane and Recommissioning; Mechanical VFD Replacement; Reheat Coil Cleaning; Steam Heat Exchanger Evaluation; and Domestic Water Chiller/Purification Filter Replacement. Project completion likely isn’t anticipated until end of 2025 or into 2026.
- South Arch Ceiling Repairs – The ceiling plaster and paint is failing. The project is expected to be completed this fall.
- Tympanum walls above Chamber Entries on Floor 2 - The plaster and paint above each of the Chamber entrances is failing. The project is expected to be completed this fall.

8. Executive Residence Updates | Mr. Matthew Siller

- Window Sash Repairs - The replacement is in progress. Four sashes were installed by DOA skilled trades in the fall of 2022, with two back ordered sashes set to be installed this month. The project's scope has been expanded to include five additional mahogany sashes in the breakfast nook, drawing room, and dining room. The additional sashes were ordered in 2022 and are expected to be delivered in 2023.
- Native Shoreland Plantings Phase II – This has been suspended until 2024. Phase I was completed in 2022.
- Memorial Garden Plaque – This project has been completed.

9. Closed Session of the Board* - Executive Residence Items for Consideration | Deputy Chief Christopher Litzkow

Executive Residence Security Upgrades – Discussion

**The Board may convene in closed session as permitted under Wis. Stat. § 19.85(1)(d) to discuss and consider strategies for crime detection or prevention through Executive Residence security upgrades. The discussion will be facilitated by Deputy Chief Christopher Litzkow of the State Capitol Police and Department of Administration staff and will include the basis for the security upgrade recommendations, ways in which the upgrades may assist in crime detection and prevention and respond to questions from Board members.*

Motion #5: Representative Subeck moved to convene a closed session of the State Capitol and Executive Residence Board, for the purpose of discussing and considering strategies for crime detection and prevention through Executive Residence security upgrades. A closed session of the Board for these purposes is authorized under Wisconsin Statute Section 19.85(1)(d). Seconded by Mr. Overland.

Motion #5 was approved by unanimous voice vote.

SCERB Members who attended the meeting virtually transitioned to a private Teams meeting and all other in-person attendees outside of the SCERB Members and presenters were asked to leave the room. Deputy Chief Litzkow provided an overview of the project details along with questions and discussion from the Board.

10. Reconvene in Open Session of the Board (Wis. Stat. § 19.85(2))

Mr. Kay re-opened the meeting to the public. SCERB Members who attended the meeting virtually transitioned back to the open Teams meeting and all other in-person attendees who were previously asked to leave the room were permitted back in.

11. Executive Residence Items for Consideration

Executive Residence Security Upgrade – Action

The Board reported that two motions have been made in Closed Session to recommend portions of the Executive Residence Security Upgrades.

12. Adjournment

Motion #9: Senator Roys moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Overland.

Motion #9 was approved by unanimous voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 3:54pm.