

Iowa Capitol Planning Commission Minutes
Wednesday, April 19, 2023
Iowa State Capitol Building - Conference Room 102
(1:03 – 1:35 p.m.)

Members Present

Annette Renaud, Chair
Brett Seelman, Vice Chair
William (Bill) Dikis
Carol Grant

Malcolm Hankins
Tracee Knapp
Director Adam Steen, Secretary

Members Absent

Senator Janet Petersen
Senator Carrie Koelker

Representative Jacob Bossman
Representative Sean Bagniewski

Department of Administrative Services (DAS) Staff Present for All or Portions of the Meeting

Scott Gustafson
Matt Durand
Suzy Trotter

Others Present for All or Portions of the Meeting

Elizabeth Mansfield, Des Moines Resident
Matt Davis, Neumann Brothers
Matt Carlile, Confluence

Call to Order and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 1:03 p.m. by Chair Renaud.

Meeting Overview and Approval of Agenda

MOTION: Vice Chair Seelman made a motion to approve the agenda. Carol Grant seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes from January 4, 2023

MOTION: Carol Grant made a motion to approve the minutes. Bill Dikis seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Committee Updates

Master Plan

Vice Chair Seelman reported there were no updates to the Master Plan. Vice Chair Seelman invited Matt Carlile, Confluence, to provide his prospective regarding the updates to the Master Plan at a meeting to be scheduled at a later date.

Site Features

Tracee Knapp reported there were no updates from the Site Features Committee.

Chair Renaud proposed resolution authorizing the Department of Administrative Services, at its discretion, to spend the remaining balance of the Monument Conservation Fund and present a final summary of projects to the Commission once funding has fully been allocated.

The Monument Conservation Fund balance of available funds for restoration as of April 17, 2023, is \$18,833.42.. Included in the FY2022 Annual Report, the Commission recommended the Legislature remove the match requirement for the Monument Conservation Fund and issue the remaining funds to the Commission for maintenance of non-endowed monuments which would be approximately \$30,000.00

Vice Chair Seelman requested information on the frequency of the monument surveying. Suzy Trotter reported the last professional condition assessment was performed per the request of the Commission in October 2019. Bill Dikis suggested the Commission add an amendment to the Master Plan for a planned routine survey of the monuments.

MOTION: Carol Grant made a motion to approve the resolution allowing DAS to spend the remaining balance of the Monument Conservation Fund and present a final summary of projects to the Commission once the funding has been fully allocated. Bill Dikis seconded the motion and offered an amendment, to issue a public release reporting on the Commission's accomplishments as a result of the generosity for the public donations over the years to the Monument Conservation Fund. The proposed resolution with the amendment passed unanimously.

Staff Reports/Project Updates

Legislative Update

Suzy Trotter reported on behalf of Tami Wiencek, there are no legislative updates.

Construction Update

Suzy Trotter reported on behalf of Charlee Cross, Capitol Complex improvements include ongoing sidewalk and parking lot repairs/replacements as well as security camera installation. The Holocaust Memorial was removed in November 2022, for restoration. The goal is to reinstall the Memorial in late May 2023. The Jesse Parker Building project to repair the below grade waterproofing is completed and the contractors are restoring the site and turf. The State Capitol Complex Parking Structure project includes replacement of the storm drains and concrete repairs.

Other Business

Upper East Village Renewal Plan

Malcolm Hankins, Commission member and City of Des Moines Assistant City Manager, reported the city received an inquiry regarding the Capitol Viewshed for the Upper East Village Renewal Plan and the height of a building. A building developer wants to exceed a 75- foot restriction in place to protect views of the Capitol. The applicant will need to seek a variance through the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Comments from Commissioners & Public

Elizabeth Mansfield expressed concern how the Commission would enforce the 75 foot height restriction before a building exceeded the protected viewshed. Chair Renaud clarified the Commission's role as a recommending body to the City of Des Moines and that it is the city's responsibility to work with the developers on City of Des Moines property.

Matt Carlile thanked Bill Dikis for his time on the Capitol Commission and his leadership to establish the Master Plan. Bill appreciated Matt's comments and stated he would continue to assist the Commission as needed.

Chair Renaud introduced Matt Davis as the incoming member of the Capitol Planning Commission to fill Bill Dikis' seat.

Upcoming Meeting

July 19, 2023 at 1:00 p.m.

Adjourn

Chair Renaud adjourned the meeting at 1:35 p.m.