

**Legislative Coordinating Commission
Capitol Restoration Working Group
Friday, August 3, 2007
10:00 a.m.
Room 5, State Office Building**

Present:

Rep. Lyndon Carlson
Rep. Alice Hausman
Rep. Mary Liz Holberg
Rep. Morrie Lanning
Rep. Diane Loeffler
Rep. Mary Murphy
Sen. Dennis Frederickson
Sen. Keith Langseth
Sen. Ann Rest
Sen. Claire Robling
Justice Paul Anderson
Dana Badgerow
Margot Imdieke
Carolyn Kompelien
David Lanegran
Rebecca Spartz

Excused:

Sen. Richard Cohen
Sen. James Metzen
Bob Schroeder
Cynthia Weitzel

Greg Hubinger, Director of the Legislative Coordinating Commission (LCC), called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m. A quorum was present. Members introduced themselves. Mr. Hubinger reviewed the legislation and resolution adopted by the LCC that created the Capitol Restoration Working Group.

Election of House and Senate co-chairs

Sen. Frederickson nominated Sen. Langseth for the position of Co-Chair. There were no other nominations. Sen. Frederickson moved to elect Sen. Langseth to the position of Co-Chair. The motion passed. Sen. Langseth was elected Co-Chair.

Rep. Murphy nominated Rep. Hausman for the position of Co-Chair. There were no other nominations. Rep. Carlson moved to elect Rep. Hausman to the position of Co-Chair. The motion passed. Rep. Hausman was elected Co-Chair.

Sen. Langseth took over as Chair of the meeting.

Agenda overview

Mr. Hubinger introduced Judy Plante, Director of the Management Analysis Division of the Department of Administration, who was selected to facilitate the meetings of the Capitol Restoration Working Group. Ms. Plante stated that the purpose of the meeting was to make sure everyone was on the same page and to identify key issues and goals within the group.

Review of history of recent Capitol restoration proposals and plans

Dana Badgerow, Commissioner of Administration, gave a factual synopsis of key milestones of building and preservation from 1905 to the present. In 2000, a comprehensive plan was developed which stated that planning would not focus outside the Capitol. A predesign study determined that the Capitol does not have enough space to meet the needs of the House, Senate and other occupants. The study determined a need for public rooms and expansion and recommended either remodeling or building a new facility. In 2006, the 2000 plan was updated. To date, \$23.7 million has been spent on improvement of the exterior of the Capitol and \$2.85 million on planning for restoration and preservation. Ms. Badgerow stood for questions. Discussion ensued.

Mission discussion and identification of issues and options

Ms. Plante asked the group to list what they would like to hear future generations say about the Capitol. Rep. Holberg suggested that the Co-chairs allow a less formal discussion under the direction of Ms. Plante. The Co-chairs agreed. The group wanted to see a well-maintained and preserved Capitol that is accessible to everyone and meets the needs of members, employees and the public. Members of the group noted that the Capitol needs to have updated technology and the ability to adapt to and accommodate changing technology. Some members of the group agreed that the Capitol cannot meet all of the needs of the House, Senate and other occupants. Therefore, it is imperative that the master plan look outside the Capitol itself. One member stated that there must be bipartisan and bicameral support for the master plan in order to reflect the legacy of the Capitol.

The working group recessed for a short lunch break.


Ms. Plante asked the group to explain key issues related to the restoration and preservation of the Capitol. Members of the group noted that since the Capitol is on the National Register of Historic Places, any renovation should not compromise the Capitol's historic nature. Members of the group also noted that there are issues with aging mechanicals, energy inefficiency, and an inadequate HVAC system. The Capitol also needs to be updated to meet current building codes. One member stated that the visitor experience at the Capitol needs to be improved in terms of dining, adequate space for meeting with senators and representatives, parking/transit alternatives, and a gift shop. Usable space within the building is one of the most pressing issues. Several group members would like to see a master plan that incorporates the entire Capitol complex.

Ms. Plante asked the group to focus on the options available in the process of restoration and preservation of the Capitol. First, the group agreed that there needs to be more parking through either rearrangement or a new location. Several members of the group would like to see an evaluation of the Ford building as a viable space alternative. Members of the group agreed that they will need technical expertise in exploring the options regarding building codes, health issues, and environmental concerns. Members of the group also recognized the need for this to be an inclusive process with input from the House, Senate, Governor, and public.

Next steps

Ms. Plante stated that a date for the next meeting has not been established yet, but the LCC will be in contact with members. Ms. Plante encouraged members to look over the information presented today and email her with their ideas and suggestions for the next meeting.

There being no further business, Sen. Langseth adjourned the meeting at 1:20 p.m.



Senator Keith Langseth, Co-Chair



Representative Alice Hausman, Co-Chair

