

STATE CAPITOL COMMITTEE
Hybrid/Remote Meeting

Monday, December 16, 2024
10:00 a.m.

Draft Minutes

SCC MEMBERS PRESENT:

Lieutenant Governor Denny Heck, Chair
Randy Bolerjack (Vice Chair & Designee for
Secretary of State Steve Hobbs)
Katy Taylor, (Designee for Commissioner of Public
Lands Hilary Franz)

SCC MEMBERS EXCUSED:

Kelly Wicker, Governor Inslee's Designee

OTHERS PRESENT:

Cynthia Barrett, Department of Enterprise Services	Denise Keegan, Trials Legacy Committee
Rachelle Berrigan, Department of Enterprise Services	Greg Klein, Olympia Historical Society
Emilie Brown, Department of Enterprise Services	Kara Klotz, Department of Enterprise Services
David Bremer, Legislature	Dennis Lawson, WSCFF
George Carter, Department of Enterprise Services	Nouk Leap, Department of Enterprise Services
Brent Chapman, Department of Enterprise Svcs.	Aaron Luoma, HBB
Brian Considine, Department of Natural Resources	Jimmy Martin, Department of Enterprise Services
Brandon Corneliusen, Department of Enterprise Svcs	A.T. Miller
Jerry Cornfield, WA State Standard	Patrick McDonald, Office of the Secretary of State
Ashlee Delaney, Department of Enterprise Services	Brian Pickering, Department of Enterprise Services
Pat Ellis, Puget Sound Fire	Roby Poche, Department of Enterprise Services
Chris Ferguson, Legislature	Dallas Roberts, Lieutenant Governor's Office
Bill Frare, Department of Enterprise Services	Jacquelyn Jimenez Romero
Valerie Gow, Puget Sound Meeting Services	Scott Sarian, Legislature
Greg Griffith, Olympia Historical Society	Bud Sizemore, WA State Council of Fire Fighters
Becky Guyer, Department of Enterprise Services	Katy Stark, Department of Enterprise Services
Tamara Hayes, Department of Enterprise Services	Eileen Swarthout, Legislature
Tom Helpenstell	Shaina Thompson, Department of Enterprise Services
Adam Holdorf, Department of Enterprise Services	James Troyer, Legislature
Ashley Howard, Department of Enterprise Services	Ronald Walters
Rachelle Johnson, Department of Enterprise Services	John Wilson-Tepeli, Legislature
Matt Jones, Department of Enterprise Services	

Call Meeting to Order - Action

Lieutenant Governor Denny Heck called the State Capitol Committee (SCC) hybrid/remote meeting to order at 10:18 a.m. and welcomed members, staff, and guests to the meeting.

Members and staff provided self-introduction.

Lieutenant Governor Heck reviewed items on the agenda to approve the September 19, 2024 meeting minutes; receive public comments; nominate 2025 officers; establish 2025 meeting calendar; consider action on the installation of the Olmsted Plaque and Marathon Trials signs; receive an update on progress of the Cal Anderson Memorial; consider action on the site of the Fallen Firefighters Memorial; and receive updates on the proposed renaming of Joel Pritchard State Library and the Legislative Campus Modernization projects.

Approval of Minutes of September 18, 2024 Meeting – Action

Randy Bolerjack moved, seconded by Katy Taylor, to approve the September 19, 2024 meeting minutes as presented. A voice vote unanimously approved the motion.

SCC Chair and Vice Chair Nominations – Action

Lieutenant Governor Heck invited nominations for Chair and Vice Chair.

Katy Taylor nominated Lieutenant Governor Heck to serve as Chair for 2025 and Steve Hobbs to serve as Vice Chair for 2025. Randy Bolerjack seconded the nominations.

By a unanimous vote of affirmation, Lieutenant Governor Heck was elected to serve as 2025 Chair and Secretary of State Steve Hobbs was elected to serve as 2025 Vice Chair.

Establish SCC 2025 Regular Meeting Calendar – Action

Chair Heck reviewed proposed meeting dates for 2025:

- March 20, 2025 – 10 a.m.
- June 26, 2025 – 10 a.m.
- September 18, 2025 – 10 a.m.
- December 5, 2025 – 10 a.m.

Randy Bolerjack moved, seconded by Katy Taylor, to approve the proposed meeting calendar for 2025 as presented. A voice vote approved the motion unanimously.

Randy Bolerjack moved, seconded by Katy Taylor, to authorize the 2025 SCC Chair (or Vice Chair) to modify the meeting dates or times to fulfill the business needs of the State Capitol Committee and Capitol Campus Design Advisory Committee, and to work with the Department of Enterprise Services to properly notice any modified meeting dates and times. A voice vote approved the motion unanimously.

Public Comment Period – Informational

Jimmy Martin, Legislative Affairs Specialist, reported DES received no written public comments prior to the meeting.

Greg Griffith, Olympia Historical Society, spoke in support of the proposed placement of the Marathon Trials signs at Marathon Park.

Building and Grounds – Action

Olmsted Plaque

Dr. Brent Chapman, Horticulturist and Grounds Property Manager, reviewed the proposed Olmsted Plaque project. Staff presented the proposal as an informational item at the committee's last meeting. The request is to approve the Olmsted Plaque for installation on Capitol Campus.

The bronze plaque formalizes the contribution of the Olmsted firm to west Capitol Campus as recommended by the Campus Arboretum Advisory Committee. The Olmsted Brothers created a tremendous legacy on Capitol Campus. The Advisory Committee recommends including a plaque on the campus to supplement information on the DES webpage about the Olmsted legacy.

The DES Sign Committee approved a new commemorative plaque honoring the Olmsted Brothers' historic landscape design completed in 1929. WAC guidelines specify the regulations for commemorative bronze plaques. The proposal is to install a 12" x 18" plaque on a granite base. Staff collaborated with Friends of Seattle's Olmsted Parks and DES Communications on the text and sign layout. Dr. Chapman shared an illustration of the proposed design of the plaque.

Dr. Chapman shared a photograph of the George W. Bush commemorative plaque for the Bush butternut tree located on west campus as an example of a granite base with a bronze plaque. The proposed location of the Olmsted plaque is between the Tivoli Fountain and the Medal of Honor Memorial, along the main east/west axis that defines the west campus. The plaque and granite base will be installed within a mulched bed to eliminate the need for grass maintenance.

Dependent upon the committee's action, staff plans to begin preparation of the site in January with installation of the granite base and plaque scheduled in spring 2025.

Randy Bolerjack moved, seconded by Katy Taylor, to approve the location and installation of the Olmsted Brothers plaque on Capitol Campus as recommended by the Capitol Campus Design Advisory Committee. A voice vote approved the motion unanimously.

Marathon Trials – Action

Dr. Chapman reported the committee received a briefing on the proposal at its last meeting.

The proposal would relocate the original commemorative sign for the Women's Marathon Trials held in Olympia 40 years ago. Dr. Chapman acknowledged the efforts by Denise Keegan, Chair of the Trials Legacy Committee and other committee members to relocate the sign and add a new sign.

In 2004, a 2' x 3' commemorative marker was placed in the park. The location of the marker is not easily visible to most Marathon Park visitors. The proposal moves the marker to a more prominent location within the park, as well as adding another marker listing all women who competed in the first historic 1984 Women's Olympic Marathon Trials. The signs would be placed side-by-side at an appropriate ADA level for viewing. Both signs would be integrated within a mulched bed to reduce landscaping maintenance. Both proposals were reviewed by the DES Sign Committee, as well as recommended by the CCDAC at its last meeting.

Pending the committee's decision, the Women's Marathon Legacy Committee will move forward on the construction of the signs and partner with Buildings and Ground staff to relocate the existing sign and install the signs together at the new location.

Ms. Taylor thanked Ms. Keegan for her efforts on the project.

Randy Bolerjack moved, seconded by Katy Taylor, to approve the relocation and installation of the Marathon Trials signs in Marathon Park, as recommended by Capitol Campus Design Advisory Committee. A voice vote approved the motion unanimously.

Campus Memorials – Action

Cal Anderson Memorial

Aaron Luoma with HBB, a landscape architecture firm, presented the proposal for approval of the location of the Cal Anderson Memorial.

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A major goal of the memorial is to honor Senator Cal Anderson as a civil rights champion and Washington's first openly gay legislator. Another goal honors him for his service in the Vietnam War and for his character and legacy. The location is in a quiet area of the campus while ensuring the space is inclusive and accessible to everyone. It was also important that the design works within the historic character of the campus.

Mr. Luoma reviewed the project schedule. A meeting is scheduled with stakeholders on Friday, December 20, 2024 to celebrate the joint efforts accomplished to date. Seven meetings were held with the stakeholders as well as meetings with the SCC and the CCDAC since June 2024.

Stakeholders reviewed suggestions of words to describe Senator Anderson's life and legacy. The words were paired with either pictures or graphic images conveying the words or inspirations. The images served to develop the design framework of the memorial.

The process identified a preferred site for the memorial with the team reviewing historical aspects of the site to identify and understand how the memorial would reside within the context of the historic Olmsted Landscape Plan on the west campus. The site is located east of the Sunken Garden. Because the memorial honors an individual, the proposal conforms to WAC 200-230 memorial guidelines.

The site analysis considered the purpose of the memorial to provide opportunities for sitting, meditating, and contemplating surrounded by the views of the Legislative Building and the greenscape of west campus. The site provides an opportunity for announcements and proclamations. The site complements a curvilinear greensward and pastoral landscape to provide contrast to the Sunken Garden and buffer views and sounds to the north and northwest. The design considered how the memorial could attract pedestrians from the south and be visible from a distance from the east and northeast. The design avoids features of significance over the height of the Sunken Garden. The memorial is transparent and not obstructed providing a break and rhythm from the pathway for visitors to rest and to facilitate engagement with the memorial and its message.

The team, working with stakeholders, considered the shape of the memorial. Feedback conveyed a preference for a 15-foot wide space with a 10-foot offset from the existing Sunken Garden hedge that would not be higher than four feet. The team developed five concept sketches of the memorial and presented them to the stakeholder group. Members selected concept D as the preferred design reflecting a round shape of approximately 20 feet wide featuring a curvilinear seat bench and a focal point of a boulder. The team continued working on the concept with stakeholders to incorporate anti-skate deterrence to both the railings and the seatwall. The bench is flanked by evergreen shrubs to soften the ends. An interpretative sign with companion seating space faces the legislative dome to the southwest. One large boulder is featured serving as the focal point with engravings. An accessible pathway is located off the main pedestrian sidewalk to the south with several steps with a railing facing to the east serving as an area for larger demonstrations, announcements, or proclamations.

The planting pallet includes pollinator-friendly species, native species, deer resistant species, and plants included on the Olmsted native plant list. The color palette features light blues and purples with a Japanese Snowbell tree selected specifically by Mr. Anderson's husband. A bloom schedule was completed identifying the range of plants and flower colors throughout the year. Mr. Luoma displayed a series of illustrations of planting designs for the memorial and views provided from the memorial to different areas of the campus.

The curved bench and seatwall represents Cal Anderson's collaborative approach of sitting and working with people. The feature is embedded within the landscape using materials that complement adjacent buildings. Several sketches of the bench design were shared with stakeholders with a preferred design identified. The team developed some construction details and three-dimensional models of the bench incorporating drainage

holes and a notch to accommodate subtle lighting. The color recommendation is for a gray/white color of concrete material closely matching the colors of adjacent buildings.

The primary focal boulder of granite features a ribbon of polished stone spiraling up the rough boulder to represent perseverance in the face of uneven terrain; smoothing the path for future generations of lawmakers pursuing civil rights legislation; and meditation and discovery emphasizing movement and celebration. Inscription options include metal inlay or engraved lettering within an inscription area of 210 square inches (limit per WAC 200-230) with the top line featuring Cal Anderson's name in a large font with additional messaging to honor Cal Anderson (to be determined).

The team completed an implementation plan. The plan includes an estimated design schedule for completing the final engineering design and permitting over a period of approximately eight months. Several months are included for bidding and contracting with construction anticipated of six months. DES and the stakeholders received a simplified construction cost estimate of approximately \$312,000 and a more detailed breakdown of individual line items.

Chair Heck complimented the team for development of the design renderings as it helps to visualize and imagine what the space will reflect after completion of the memorial. He asked Mr. Luoma to extend to the stakeholders the deep gratitude by SCC members for their efforts.

Randy Bolerjack moved, seconded by Katy Taylor, to approve the proposed site location for the Cal Anderson Memorial east of the Sunken Garden.

Mr. Bolerjack noted that although there was some pain experienced throughout the design process, he is gratified that those issues were rectified in such a tremendous and thoughtful form. The memorial represents a beautiful and deserved honor for Senator Cal Anderson, an early architect of marriage equality in Washington State and in the country. He encouraged everyone to read his chapter in the book, *Love Equally*, featured in the Secretary of State's Legacy Washington program to learn more about his impact on Washington's journey to marriage equality. The characteristics reflected in testimonials from his colleagues were his hopefulness and kindness. The memorial will serve as a reminder of those for future generations serving the state from Olympia. He thanked the team for such fine work.

Chair Heck added that for those fortunate to have known Cal Anderson and worked with him, every positive adjective that the committee generated in describing him are not rose-colored nostalgic views of who he was as a human being as they are 100 percent correct.

A voice vote approved the motion unanimously.

Fallen Firefighter Memorial

Brian Considine, Legislative Director, Department of Natural Resources (DNR) presented the proposal.

Mr. Considine introduced Chaplin Pat Ellis who serves as the primary contact for the Fallen Firefighter Memorial Foundation. The committee received a presentation on the proposed memorial at its previous meeting.

A Fallen Firefighter Memorial was established in 1989 and was located in the John A. Cherberg Building featuring a memorial shadowbox commemorating firefighters who had lost their lives in the line of duty. Following the Nisqually Earthquake, the memorial was damaged and was never replaced. Over the last several years, DNR, serving as the largest wildland firefighter force in the state, worked with fire service partners to

reestablish a firefighter memorial. Efforts began in 2024 to build a memorial on Capitol Campus resulting in the passage of House Bill 2091 establishing a Fallen Firefighter Memorial on the campus. DNR, serving as the largest wildland firefighter force in the state, worked with fire service partners to reestablish a firefighter memorial and supported passage of the bill in conjunction with other state fire service partners.

Prior to filing the bill, DNR and DES staff and service partners toured the campus to identify different areas to help inform provisions within the bill. The bill was passed unanimously and signed by the Governor in March 2024. DNR's capital budget includes an appropriation to begin initial work on the memorial. The proposal is for approval of the location for the memorial with the understanding that it represents a next step in the process, as the committee will receive regular updates on the design process.

Chaplin Ellis said the project has been of importance to him personally for a number of years having served with Puget Sound Fire for the last 24 years. He also served as the Director of the Washington State Fallen Firefighters Memorial Foundation and as the State Director for Local Assistance State Team, a project under the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation in support of families following a death of a firefighter.

The first reported death of a firefighter was in 1891 when Herman Larson, a Seattle firefighter was killed in a training accident on the piers in Seattle. Since then, the state has suffered the loss of 281 firefighters who have given their lives in the line of duty.

In 1985, the Washington State Fire Fighters' Association established a Washington State Fallen Firefighter Memorial Service. Each year, the service has been held in Olympia at the Legislative Building. In 2008, he became involved in the service and assumed the responsibilities of the service by coordinating and leading the service. Due to COVID, the service was moved to the Washington State Fire Training Academy. Last year, the service returned to the Legislative Building.

A permanent memorial on Capitol Campus creates a place to honor, remember, and recognize men and women who gave their lives in service to their communities. Within emergency services for both law enforcement and fire service, responders often speak the words of "never forgotten" on a regular basis. The words hold the memory of fallen responders forever. However, they are only words unless some action is forthcoming. The establishment of a memorial would enable etching the names of fallen firefighters in stone and it speaks to the action of never forgetting. Ribbons of those who gave their lives are displayed each year. Having a place to honor and to remember those who gave their lives is extremely important not just to the firefighter community but also to their families and to those they served throughout the state. Each year, the average loss is six to eight firefighters from deaths often caused by cancer, wildland fire, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), or heart attack.

Chaplin Ellis thanked the committee for consideration of identifying a location for a memorial to honor the lives of fallen firefighters.

Mr. Considine shared several photographs of the memorial site for consideration. As part of Major Works projects outlined in WAC 200-230, the proposed site is located to the northeast on the great lawn across from the WWII Memorial, which offers clear sight lines to the Legislative Building. The open space on the great lawn and its proximity to the north diagonal enables fire trucks and large gatherings to assemble. Fire Service partners walked the campus with DES and viewed multiple sites and selected the proposed site. He shared several photographs of the proposed location reflecting different views from the north walkway. The site provides sufficient size and easy access for people and equipment for services and events.

If the committee approves the site of the location, next steps include utilizing the budget to work with DES staff and fire service partners to release a request for proposal for design services.

Ms. Taylor expressed gratitude to Mr. Considine, Chaplin Ellis, and all partners involved, as the process has been underway for some time.

Katy Taylor moved, seconded by Randy Bolerjack, to approve the location of the Fallen Firefighters Memorial on Capitol Campus as presented. A voice vote approved the motion unanimously.

Marcus Whitman Relocation - Information

Matt Jones, Chief Operations Officer, DES, reported the Legislature passed House Bill 1372 replacing the statue of Marcus Whitman in the National Statuary Hall in Washington D.C. with the statue of Nisqually Tribal member Billy Frank Jr., who dedicated his life to advocating for equality, justice, and environmental protections. The legislation affects the Legislative Building housing sculptures of Marcus Whitman and Mother Joseph. The legislation adds the Billy Frank Jr. statue to the Legislative Building.

Mr. Jones reviewed the summary of structural analysis related to relocation of the Marcus Whitman statue currently located in the north foyer on the second floor of the Legislative Building adjacent to the Volunteer Desk. The Billy Frank Jr., statue would be a new addition to the building and reflects the state's contribution to the National Statuary Hall in Washington, D.C. DES and the consultant team evaluated three locations with the first two located on the third floor outside of the Senate and House Chambers and the third on an existing and covered slab at the exterior south portico of the building.

The study scope to identify structural needs included reviewing architectural and engineering records of the Legislative Building, potentially conducting exterior boring and material testing, and pursuing additional studies of the options.

Mr. Jones shared a photograph of the Marcus Whitman statue. The statue weights 9,144 pounds to include the stone base and requires specialized equipment to move and support the statue. The 11-1/2 foot tall statue must be located in a space that is physically and aesthetically cohesive with the scale of the statue. Options 1 and 2 are located outside of the House and Senate Chambers and would require the space to be centered over a steel girder, yet located within the alcove to avoid restricting access and flow in public hallways. Based on the schematics of the building, the new location is challenging because of safety hazards, security concerns as individuals could hide behind the statue, and concerns about the historic design of the third floor.

The site of Option 3 at the south portico includes an existing vacated steam tunnel in the area requiring additional study with surface penetrating radar to ensure the statue's weight would not compromise the tunnel or other underground infrastructure. Other concerns center on security as the campus has experienced vandalism to other statues and memorials over the last several years as well as environmental exposure.

Chair Heck asked whether the concerns are primarily related to vandalism for this particular statue as opposed to other statues on campus. Mr. Jones said the campus has experienced vandalism to statues that do not resonate with current social justice efforts over the last several years, such as painting on the George Washington statue. Staff is concerned about the placement of the Whitman statue in an exterior location.

The consulting team determined it is not feasible to relocate the statue to the third floor, as there would be significant risk to the structure of the building as well as to the statue. However, it is more feasible to relocate the statue to the exterior portico. The anticipated relocation cost is \$115,000 with an additional \$4,000 to confirm current conditions of the south portico.

Ms. Taylor commented that relocation of the statue will be interesting to follow as to the outcome.

Chair Heck noted that the information within the staff report speaks to the difficulty of moving the statue because of numerous factors. No decision has been rendered on the location of the Billy Frank Jr. statue.

Proposed Renaming of Joel Pritchard State Library – Information

Mr. Jones reported the update is informational.

DES received a letter from Representatives Tharinger and Abbarno proposing the renaming of the Joel Pritchard State Library to the Joel Pritchard Building. The building is part of the Legislative Campus Modernization project that is currently under reconstruction with major renovation scheduled for completion by summer 2026.

Mr. Bolerjack said the State Library exists within the Office of the Secretary of State (SOS) including the central library, institutional libraries, and the Washington Talking Book and Braille Library. The Nisqually Earthquake necessitated moving the State Library to another temporary location for approximately one year. However, after more than two decades, the State Library continues to reside in a nondescript office building in Tumwater. The building and site are not ideal for housing the State Library. The notation of “State Library” on the Joel Pritchard Building sign has confused many people. As the department overseeing the State Library, the SOS supports the renaming proposal.

Chair Heck cited language in RCW 43.34.090 Building names:

- (1) The legislature shall approve names for new or existing buildings on the state capitol grounds based upon recommendations from the state capitol committee and the director of the department of enterprise services, with the advice of the capitol campus design advisory committee, subject to the following limitations:
 - a. An existing building may be renamed only after a substantial renovation or a change in the predominant tenant agency headquartered in the building.

Chair Heck said the Senate State Government Committee held a hearing on the proposal on Friday, December 13, 2024. He testified during the hearing about the need to resolve the purpose of the SCC or abolish the committee. It is clear that the RCW directs that the Legislature can only act based on the recommendation of the SCC. One of the concerns raised by naming of buildings by the Senate State Government Committee is the lack of any names of people of color, which is not reflective of the contributions and make-up of the population. He supports acting on the proposal in time for the Legislature to consider action during the 2025 session. He recommended scheduling action at the committee’s March meeting.

Legislative Campus Modernization Project

Brian Pickering, Legislative Campus Modernization Project Manager, provided the update.

Recent accomplishments include substantial completion of the Newhouse Building and reopening of the pedestrian bridge. Staff relocated to the new building with some minor work continuing as the punch list is completed.

The hillside stabilization project was completed for the Pritchard Building project as well as the installation of drill cast concrete piles. Ongoing efforts include work on foundation and site work for expansion of the building. A tower crane was moved to the site at the end of October to assist with the construction project. Next steps are completion of the expansion of the foundation throughout winter and installation of structural steel beginning in late January.

The O’Brien Building Renovation project is not scheduled to begin until after the end of session in 2026.

Mr. Pickering shared and reviewed several photographs of the Newhouse Building project and the Pritchard Building Renovation project.

Chair Heck asked whether the Pritchard project is within budget and on schedule.

Bill Frare, DES FPS Assistant Director, affirmed the project is within budget but because of the presence of unsuitable soils during excavation work for the foundation, the schedule has been affected. Often, when underground work is included on a project, many unknowns are often encountered. The soil issue is located south of the existing structure but is not related to hillside stabilization. Appropriate soil compaction in that area is not possible and will require larger foundations where soil conditions are improved. The issue has affected the project schedule to some degree. The cost to resolve the conditions should be absorbed in the project's budget contingency. The cost is estimated to be approximately \$600,000 to \$700,000 as part of the contingency.

Chair Heck commented on his attendance to the recent ribbon cutting ceremony for the Newhouse Building. During the events, some participants expressed hope that the building would exist for at least 100 years. He reminded members to consider that all decisions related to memorials, plaques, or buildings will affect the state for centuries, which speaks to the importance of each decision.

Mr. Bolerjack added that he also attended the ceremony.

Future Announcements and Adjournment of Meeting – Action

Chair Heck reported the DES website includes up-to-date meeting information for future SCC and CCDAC meetings.

With there being no further business, Chair Heck adjourned the meeting at 11:41 a.m.

Prepared by Valerie L. Gow, Recording Secretary/President
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