Idaho Capitol Commission

Official Minutes
August 31, 1998

The first meeting of the Idaho Capitol Commission was held on this date in the House Caucus Room, #311, Idaho State Capitol Building. Chairman Roy Eiguren called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m.

Attendees

Members Present:
Roy Eiguren, Chairman
Pam Ahrens, Director, Dept. of Administration, and Secretary and Ex-Officio Member
Sondra Dahl-Hansen
Andrew Erstad
Stephen Hartgen
Louise Shadduck
Skip Smyser
President Pro Tem Jerry Twiggs, Ex-Officio Member
Speaker Mike Simpson, Ex-Officio Member
Carl Bianchi, Director, Legislative Services Office and Ex-Officio Member
Steve Guerber, Director, State Historical Society and Ex-Officio Member

Staff Present:
Jan Frew, Senior Project Manager, Division of Public Works, Dept. of Administration
Mike Despot, Manager, Facilities Services, Department of Administration
Jason Hancock, Analyst, Legislative Services Office
Rick Thompson, Internal Management Systems Administrator, Dept. of Administration
Darla Jensen, Administrative Assistant, Office of the President Pro Tem
Diane Garcia, Administrative Assistant, Department of Administration

Welcome and Introductions

Prior to their individual introductions, Chairman Eiguren thanked each of the members for their participation on Idaho's Capitol Commission. Over the past year and a half, he has had the opportunity to work with Governor Batt, President Pro Tem Twiggs, and House Speaker Simpson in drafting the enabling statute for this Commission. The statute provides that the Governor, President Pro Tem, and Speaker of the House sit as ex-officio members of the Commission.

Prior Idaho Commissions

In preparation for the Commission's implementation, Chairman Eiguren's research disclosed that Idaho has had two prior Capitol Commissions. The first, in place in 1887, was called the *Board of Trustees for the State Capitol Building.* Composed of the Governor, the Secretary of State, and State Treasurer, its responsibility was to have full control over the Capitol Building and its grounds. In 1905, the second *Capitol Commission* was created with the responsibility of constructing a new Capitol Building. This group was composed of the Governor, Secretary of State, Treasurer, and "two competent citizens".

In 1920, with the reorganization of state government, all prior Commission statutes were repealed. The only provision in statute prior to July 1, 1998 was the responsibility of the director of the Department of Administration to oversee the Capitol Building and its grounds.

Commissions in other States

As director of the Department of Administration, Director Ahrens has had the opportunity to talk with several of her counter-parts from other states about their Capitol Buildings. It is quite a challenge to keep-up these historic structures which are most often "working buildings", she said. Relocating employees during renovation projects is a problem; and additionally, historic renovations often change the square footages available for use within the building.

She pointed-out ten other states that have their Capitol Commissions listed on their home pages. Eventually, when the Idaho Capitol Commission's home page is implemented, these 10 links will be added. The Idaho Commission home page will be linked to the Historical Society, the Departments of Administration and Commerce, and the Legislative Services Office. The Historical Society will maintain the site, which will have available to the public meeting minutes, and

press releases, for example. **Mr. Hartgen requested that a listing of the ten state's websites be provided to the Commission members.**

It is fairly consistent across the nation, Mrs. Ahrens explained, that the various Capitol Commissions oversee how their Capitols are to be used, maintained, and refurbished. It is evident that some of the Commissions are a configuration of public/private members, some are funded by their state legislatures and some are set-up for private contributions. A few Commissions, like Minnesota's, oversee extensive collections of historic artwork. Some of the missing original artwork from Idaho's Statehouse should be sought out and replaced, she suggested.

During the 1960's and 1970's much of the original artwork was declared surplus or given away, Chairman Eiguren responded. The Idaho Historical Society has knowledge where some of the original artwork and artifacts are now located, and the Commission may want to ask that these items be gifted back to the State, or perhaps the State will purchase them back. Mr. Bianchi added that many originals items were relocated to the Supreme Court Building.

The Department of Administration was asked to conduct an inventory of all items throughout the Statehouse for input into a database system.

As part of the Commission's research, it may be beneficial for members to visit other states, Chairman Eiguren proposed. Perhaps some of the travel expenses could be realized through gifts from private sector companies.

Review of Statute

The Idaho Capitol Commission statute was modeled after a combination of several other state statutes, Chairman Eiguren explained--Colorado, Texas, and California. He outlined the statute as follows for the Commission members.

Statement of Findings

- Public Monument
    - Represents spirit of Idaho's citizens
    - Symbol of Idaho's sovereignty
    - One of Idaho's most renowned landmarks
- Most vital and preeminent public building in Idaho
- Maintenance and preservation, including historical character and architectural uniqueness, is of vital public interest and concern

Purpose

- Comprehensively govern all aspects of use, control, security, operation and maintenance of building and grounds
- Ensure historical character and architectural integrity are preserved and promoted
- Promote cooperation between public and private sectors to fund necessary enhancements to and preservation of building and grounds

Allocation and Control of Space

Public Space

- Interior rotunda, first and second floor hallways, adjacent restrooms, elevators, 1st through 4th floor stairways excepting those within legislative chambers which is under direct control of the Director of the Department of Administration

Executive Department

- Governor determined use and allocates space within 1st and 2nd floors. For the first time, the Governor is named in statute as having this authority
- Director of Administration maintains such space

Legislative Department

- Legislative Department determined use of 3rd and 4th floor space as well as basement
- Space within 3rd and 4th floors and basement are allocated by presiding officers of Senate and House of Representatives
- Presiding officers maintain such space and provide equipment and furniture thereto, and may contract with director of Department of Administration to do so

Exterior, Grounds, Systems

- Director of Department of Administration has exclusive control of exterior, grounds and systems of buildings
- Director, in conjunction with Governor, presiding officers of legislature and Capitol Commission, have exclusive authority to equip, maintain and operate such exterior, grounds and systems

Access and Use

- Director of Department of Administration may promulgate rules pursuant to Chapter 52, Title 67, Idaho Code governing access to and use by public. For the first time, this responsibility is assigned
- Director shall consult with Governor, presiding officers of legislature and Capitol Commission in promulgating such rules

Law Enforcement and Security

- Responsibility for law enforcement is vested in the Director of the Department of Law Enforcement. For the first time this responsibility has been assigned
- Ada County and Boise City are granted jurisdiction to enforce the laws of Idaho state ordinances of Ada County and Boise City
- Director of DOA has responsibility and authority to contract with private contractors to provide security for persons and property in the building

Powers and Duties of Commission

- Develop a comprehensive, multi-year master plan for restoration and refurbishment of the building
- Review periodically and, as appropriate, amend and modify plan
- Develop and implement program to fund the master plan
- Make recommendations to the legislature for appropriating public moneys
- Develop strategy to obtain moneys from the private sector
- Review all proposals to reconstruct, redecorate or restore in conformance with the master plan
- Review all proposals involving objects of art, memorials, statutes or exhibits to be placed in public space
- All proposals shall be in conformance with the master plan
- Identify all furniture original to the building and create an inventory of the original furniture
- Develop and implement a plan for publication and sale of publications of history of the capitol building
- Develop other capitol building memorabilia for sale to the public
- Request necessary assistance from all state agencies and presiding officers of legislature

Architect of the Capitol Building

- Architect of the capitol building shall be appointed by Capitol Commission
- Architect must be accredited to practice in the State of Idaho

- Architect shall be selected upon the basis of his/her professional knowledge and qualifications related to the preservation and restoration of historic structures.
- Architect assists the Commission in the performance of its duties

Capitol Permanent Endowment Fund

- Permanent endowment fund consists of proceeds of the sale of lands granted to the State of Idaho by the Admissions Act. (There was a noted provision in this act that gave about 32,000 acres of federal land, the proceeds from were to be used for public buildings. Unfortunately, that never became a specific permanent endowment—this Act makes it a permanent endowment fund specifically for the purpose of the Capitol Building, Chairman Eiguren explained.)
- Unappropriated and encumbered moneys in the public building fund ($3.2 million--this money would not be spent but the interest earned will be used as described in the Commission's master plan)
- Retained earnings
- Legislative Appropriations
- Endowment Fund Investment Board management

Capitol Endowment Income Fund

- Fund is managed by State Treasurer and consists of:
    - Earnings of capitol permanent endowment funds
    - Proceeds of sale of timber growing upon capitol endowment lands
    - Proceeds of leases of capitol buildings endowment lands
    - Proceeds of interest charged upon deferred payments on capitol buildings endowment lands or timber on these lands
    - All interest earned on the capitol endowment income fund
    - All public and private moneys donated and obtained pursuant to provisions of Chapter 16, Title 67, Idaho Code.
    - All other proceeds received from the use of the Capitol building endowment lands and not otherwise designated for deposit in the Capitol building's permanent endowment fund.

Meeting with Governor Batt, History of the Statehouse

The group recessed to go to the Governor's Office where the Governor thanked each of the Commission members for their efforts in participating in such an

important Idaho project. Chairman Eiguren reviewed for Governor Batt the enabling statute, followed by Mr. Guerber who presented a historical report of the Statehouse (see attached summary).

Architectural History of the Capitol

Mr. Erstad illustrated copies of a few original ink on linen drawings of the Statehouse, which were completed by J.E. Tourtellotte and Company in about 1905. The design was neoclassical and portrayed a building 201,000 square feet in size.

Because the architect tried to retain materials from the state, region and local area, the exterior skin was constructed of native sandstone. However, the original wood of the building (mahogany) was not indigenous. Over the years the mahogany was replaced with stained walnut to match. Most past remodels were not historically sensitive, he explained. In fact, during future restoration projects, encased original walls may be discovered.

The central part of the building took more than 6 years to construct; however, the two wings were built in about a year. The delay in the central construction was largely because the building's steel structure was designed and built in the east part of the United States, and then dismantled and moved to Idaho.

Past Statehouse Projects

In the late 1960's, Mrs. Frew began, vertical mahogany was installed in the Attorney Generals Suite, the Governors Office, and on the desks in the legislative chambers. Also in the distant past the chambers were closed-in and acoustical tile installed. These are past projects that will need to be fixed.

More recently, the exterior of the Capitol was sandblasted in 1975 which was not a historically-sensitive project. Today, the opinion is to leave the stone as is to not threaten its historic integrity. In 1980 the Attorney General's Office was remodeled; in 1984 some extensive electrical work completed; in 1986 a new roof was installed; in 1989 the internal Capitol dome was painted and the terracotta dome roof was repaired; in 1990 the potable waterlines were repaired; and as a result of the New Years Day fire in 1992, the Attorney Generals suite was restored.

The restoration project in the Attorney General's Office took about two years to complete. The first year was spent mostly on researching historic materials used in the original construction. As a result of the restoration project, a clock was uncovered on the wall of the JFAC Room. Much of the research involved finding artists and craftsmen to conduct some of the rare crafts, such as marble work.

Several lessons were learned as a result of the restoration project--do not allow smoking in the building, provide for fire sprinkler systems, document method and sources of the renovation, and protect our heritage.

One of the reasons Statehouse projects in the past were not done historically, she explained, is at that time custodians of historic buildings were required to replace historic items with things obviously non-historic, so not to fool the public. Today the school of thought is to put things back the way they were.

Governor Batt cautioned the Commission not to lose sight of economy—cost is important. Senator Twiggs acknowledged it is very expensive to take on this type of project. The Commission will conduct its work as inexpensively as possible, he said, and will do it well.

Capitol Building Tour

Mr. Despot and Mrs. Frew led the Commissioners on a tour of the building beginning in the basement and ending on the unfinished fifth floor. Mr. Guerber pointed out the historical displays, designed by the Historical Society. He also focused the Commissioners on the battle flags displayed on the fourth floor. These flags are rapidly deteriorating, he stressed, and would be a good candidate for a project the Commission may want to immediately fund. Mrs. Shadduck suggested historical displays in the Statehouse represent the different counties of Idaho. The would help provide for statewide historical representation within the State Capitol.

Adjournment for Lunch

Chairman Eiguren adjourned the morning session of the Capitol Commission at 12:00 p.m. The business session resumed at 1:45 p.m.

Business Session

Current Occupancy of the Building/Master Plan

Facilities Services is the landlord for state agencies in the Capitol Mall, Mr. Despot remarked. He provided the Commissioners with space layouts for each of

the Statehouse floors illustrating core spaces and common areas, as well as the space occupied by agencies. Every square foot in the Capitol is being utilized by an agency, he said. The building is very full and he cautioned when remodeling is scheduled, additional space must be secured to house building occupants while work is completed.

Chairman Eiguren inquired whether rental arrangements for space in the Statehouse are in place for the press and lobbyist groups. Space occupied by these entities, Mr. Despot replied, is space that is overseen and granted for use by the Legislature. **Whether or not the press and/or lobbyists groups should be allowed space in the Statehouse is a policy question that needs to be addressed by the Commission, Mrs. Ahrens said.**

Mr. Hartgen inquired whether the offices for constitutional officers have been consistent in size and location in the past. There have been several changes and relocations over the past years, Mr. Despot replied. There really has never been a formal process involved in determining the location and size of each constitutional official. Chairman Eiguren clarified that the statute will assist with this issue defining responsibility by the Legislature for the basement, third and fourth floors of the Statehouse, and responsibility by the executive branch for the first and second floors. The master plan will define how the Commission has determined the space be used, and the Governor and Legislature will then actually allocate the space.

Master Plan

Chairman Eiguren shared his vision of the master plan as a comprehensive office space plan in terms of defining what agencies should be located in the building, and accommodating their needs over a long term basis. The Commission will need to set policy in terms of who should occupy the Capitol and how much space each occupant is granted, Mrs. Ahrens said.

The appropriate first step may be to solicit from the Legislature and from all constitutional officers (whether or not currently located in the Capitol), their long term needs, Chairman Eiguren proposed. Once that data is compiled, the Commission would then make recommendations for use of Capitol space to the Governor and the Legislature. It is his personal opinion, he said, the Statehouse should be "the meeting place of Idaho state government" providing space for state meetings and possibly housing an office for each of Idaho's constitutional officers.

On behalf of the Commission, Chairman Eiguren asked Mrs. Ahrens and the Department of Administration to provide to the Commission a recommendation on how to proceed with the Capitol space planning and