
Idaho State Capitol Commission

Official Minutes

May 8, 2020

A meeting of the Idaho State Capitol Commission was held on this date in the East Conference Room, Joe R. Williams Building, Boise, Idaho, and via Zoom. Chairman Erstad called the meeting to order at 10:35 a.m.

Attendees

Members Present:

Andy Erstad, Chairman (via Zoom)
Keith Reynolds, Director, Dept. of Administration (IDOA), Ex-Officio Member, Commission Secretary
Eric Milstead, Director, Legislative Services Office (LSO) and Ex-Officio Member
Janet Gallimore, Executive Director, State Historical Society (ISHS), and Ex-Officio Member (via Zoom)
Marilyn Whitney, Deputy State Superintendent of Public Instruction (via Zoom)
Mary Symms-Pollot (via Zoom)
Senator Chuck Winder
Nancy Sue Wallace (via Zoom)
Representative Jason Monks (via Zoom)

Others/Staff Present:

Jan Frew, Administrator, Division of Public Works (DPW)
Barry Miller, Deputy Administrator, DPW
Steve Olsen, Deputy Attorney General, Office of the Attorney General
Kelly Berard, Construction Manager, DPW
Lincoln Smyser, Deputy Treasurer, Office of the State Treasurer (via Zoom)
Nicole Inghilterra, Capitol Curator, ISHS (via Zoom)
Genny Casiano, Chief Financial Officer, IDOA
Lindsey Erb, Project Manager, DPW (via Zoom)
Michelle O'Brien, Special Projects Coordinator, LSO (via Zoom)
Diane Blume, Program Specialist, Department of Administration

Approval of Minutes

MOTION: Commissioner Symms-Pollot moved and it was seconded by Commissioner Milstead that the minutes of the February 19, 2020 Idaho State Capitol Commission meeting be approved as written. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Outreach / Art, History & Culture Committee

Approve Placement of Irene Deely-Designed Idaho Women 100 Sculpture on the Capitol Grounds

Commissioner Gallimore explained this year is the centenary celebration of the passage of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution, which guaranteed the right to vote for American women. A task force of Idaho state agencies has been meeting for about two years to plan for an initiative to celebrate this milestone. Partnership is widespread across the state with over 36 partners and there are several projects taking place at community levels. On the state level, the task force felt there should be three Legacy Projects to provide a permanent record of this momentous year.

One of the projects is a two-volume commemorative book in partnership with Idaho State University. Secondly a film is being completed in partnership with Idaho Women in Leadership (I-WIL) and Idaho Public TV. Finally, a monumental sculpture will be installed via partnership with ISHS and Idaho Commission on the Arts (ICA).

The task force decided early on not to request any money for this commemoration, she said, because using public money for these types of efforts have been controversial. Money was to be raised privately or come from the budgets of participating organizations. There are different phases of fundraising targeted at different potential donors. About half of the funds have been raised but because of COVID-19, fundraising efforts have been postponed. Work will not continue on the sculpture until all funds have been raised.

Two artists were interviewed, and both are well known in the Idaho community—Ben Victor and Irene Deely. Ms. Deely was selected in part because she is female since it is an initiative commemorating women. The design elements provided her were that the sculpture was to be an anonymous feminine subject; iconic representation (feminine spirit) of Idaho women; dynamic figurative movement communicating passage of time; subject to represent women over 10 decades since 1920 when winning the right to vote; timeless classical sculpture style vs abstract. With this criterion, she came up with a design and her portfolio was provided to the members. Several locations for placement were considered around Boise but she and ICA Executive Director, Michael Faison, felt it was important for the state and for women and girls of the future to see this type of representation on the Capitol grounds, specifically the south east corner. Idaho was the fourth state in the union to authorize women to vote.

The Design and Construction Committee approved the design in February.

MOTION: Commissioner Gallimore moved and it was seconded by Commissioner Symms-Pollot that the commission approve placement of the Irene Deely-designed Idaho women 100 sculpture on the Capitol Grounds. The motion passed unanimously.

Design and Construction Committee

Approve Door Hardware/Access Control

The Design and Construction Committee has recommended a wireless solution for access control of 100 doors in the Capitol in lieu of modifying historic preservation hardware, Mr. Miller reported. The wireless solution is about half as expensive as utilizing traditional hardware. The estimate for wireless construction is nearly \$1.1 million and with contingency and other expected minor costs the total project cost is \$1.24 million. Initially, he explained, \$140,000 was appropriated for the study and design solution and the Commission is now being asked for an additional \$1.1 million to do the work. Since the project involves many individual doors, the project could be done in phases beginning with the highest priorities, he added.

This work is based on a study by Homeland Security which assessed threat in the Capitol and subsequently recommended access control and lock down capabilities throughout the building. Apex Integrated Security was hired to provide recommended solutions which included maintaining the historic hardware and changing out the strike within the door jamb with an electric strike, or removing historic knobs and installing a lever with wireless hardware. It would have been difficult to get an electric strike to the door jams without destroying historic marble and wood casings around the doors, he said. The State Historic Preservation Office backed the wireless solution as long as other doors within the Capitol with historic hardware were protected and maintained. This project does not include the Jefferson Street doors at the top of the stairs, which will require a different solution.

Commissioner Milstead noted that elected officials in the Capitol have been addressing their security needs in an ad hoc manner and this approach will provide for door security in a uniform manner using similar hardware.

MOTION: After clarification by Commissioner Milstead, Commissioner Wallace moved, and it was seconded by Commissioner Gallimore that the Commission approve an additional \$1.1 million for a total project cost of \$1.24 million. The motion passed unanimously.

Other Business

Chairman Erstad noted the next meeting of the Capitol Commission is scheduled for Wednesday, August 12.

Executive Session

MOTION: Commissioner Milstead moved, and it was seconded by Commissioner Whitney that the Commission enter into executive session per Idaho Code Section 74-206 1 (f) in order to discuss pending litigation, State of Idaho verses Jacobsen Hunt Joint Venture II, et al. The motion passed unanimously via roll-call vote, Commissioners Winder and Wallace were absent from voting.

No decisions were made during the executive session.

Adjournment

MOTION: Senator Winder moved, and it was seconded by Commissioner Reynolds that the May 8, 2020 meeting of the Idaho Capitol Commission be adjourned at 11:20 am.



Diane K. Blume, Program Specialist
Department of Administration