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Legislative
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MEMORANDUM

December 7, 2009

TO: Interested Persons
FROM: Jennifer Thomsen, Research Associate II, 303-866-4791
SUBJECT: Capitol Building Advisory Committee FY 2008-09 Activities

This memorandum reports the activities of the State Capitol Building Advisory Committee in FY 2008-09. The advisory committee, established pursuant to Section 24-82-108, C.R.S., serves in an advisory capacity to the Capital Development Committee and the Governor on certain issues regarding the State Capitol Building (Capitol) and its grounds.

Summary

The first section of the memorandum contains background information about the advisory committee, its membership, and duties. Next, it contains summaries of the advisory committee's FY 2008-09 activities and recommendations. Finally, the memorandum contains detailed information about Capitol improvement projects discussed by the advisory committee, advisory committee activities around publications and memorabilia, and advisory committee activities related to Visitor Services, including information about the Capitol quilt show.

Background

Membership. The advisory committee, established pursuant to Section 24-82-108, C.R.S., has 12 members. Four members are appointed by the Governor, three are appointed by the President of the Senate, three are appointed by the Speaker of the House, and two members serve *ex officio*. Of the members appointed by the Governor, one is to be an architect knowledgeable about the historic and architectural integrity of the building. The *ex officio* members are to be the president of the State Historical Society or the president's designee, and the Executive Director of the Department of Personnel and Administration or the executive director's designee. Appointed members serve a term of two years, while *ex officio* members serve as long as their office is held.

Table 1 contains a list of members of the advisory committee for FY 2008-09, as well as the appointing authority and the members' term expiration dates.

Table 1
Capitol Building Advisory Committee Membership
FY 2008-09

Member Name	Appointing Authority	Term Expiration Date
Georgianna Contiguglia, Chair	Governor	7/1/2011
Senator Bob Bacon, Vice-Chair	President of the Senate	1/1/2011
Karen Goldman	President of the Senate	1/1/2010
Sharon Nunnally	President of the Senate	1/1/2011
Marilyn Eddins	Speaker of the House	1/1/2010
David Hite	Speaker of the House	1/1/2010
Representative Paul Weissmann	Speaker of the House	1/1/2011
John Rogers	Governor	7/1/2010
Diann Sill	Governor	7/1/2011
Richard Weingardt	Governor	7/1/2011
Frank Lombardi	<i>Ex Officio</i>	
Ed Nichols	<i>Ex Officio</i>	

Meetings. The advisory committee is required to meet at least three times per year at the call of the chair. One meeting is to be designated as the annual meeting. At the annual meeting, members elect a chair to serve a one-year term.

Duties. State law directs the advisory committee to review plans to restore, redecorate, or reconstruct space within the public and ceremonial areas of the state Capitol buildings group, the Legislative Services Building and its surrounding grounds, and the grounds surrounding the State Capitol Building. The advisory committee is required to make recommendations to the Capital Development Committee, and in some cases the Governor, based on such plans. In addition, the advisory committee must evaluate proposals for use of the Capitol driveways and evaluate proposals for the gift or loan of objects of art to the building and its grounds.

The advisory committee is also authorized to:

- engage in long-range planning for modifications and improvements to the Capitol and its grounds;
- accept gifts, grants, or donations from private or public sources to develop publications and memorabilia;

- expend moneys from the advisory committee's special account to publish and develop memorabilia; to restore the Capitol, the Legislative Services Building, and the Capitol grounds; and for other related and necessary purposes; and
- call upon Legislative Council Staff and the Department of Personnel and Administration for necessary assistance.

In addition, the advisory committee has occasionally been called upon by the Capital Development Committee, the Executive Committee of the Legislative Council, the Legislative Council Staff, the Office of Legislative Legal Services, the Governor's Office, and the public to consider other issues regarding the Capitol.

Summary of FY 2008-09 Activities

The advisory committee held six regular committee meetings during FY 2008-09. Advisory committee activities included:

- continued review of activities related to the Visitor Services operation through the Ad Hoc Working Group on Visitor Services, as well as review and recommended approval of the relocation of the Visitor Services tour guide desks and reception area from the north wing to the south wing of the first floor;
- recommended approval of the reinstatement of the of the biennial Colorado Quilting Council exhibition at the State Capitol in the summer of 2009;
- review and recommended approval of a proposal from the Colorado Council on the Arts for a rotating art exhibition to be located on the basement rotunda of the Capitol beginning in 2009;
- updates on Capitol security for the Democratic National Convention;
- an ongoing review of Capitol art acquisitions, specifically, the advisory committee discussed obtaining portraits of President Clinton and President Obama for the Presidential Portrait Gallery. The loan from the Clinton Library of the portrait of President Clinton was extended through March 31, 2010; however, the Clinton Library has indicated that the loan will not be extended again. The advisory committee also continued its discussions of the status of the gift of the statue of Enos Mills;
- continued oversight of Capitol publications;
- continued updates on the State Capitol Complex Master Plan, the completion of the Capitol Life Safety project, projected needs for renovation of the Capitol dome, plans to improve the lighting in and around the Capitol, and the replacement of the Capitol elevators;

- continued updates on the status of interactive educational exhibits in the Capitol, including the exhibit located in the basement and the solar panel display and proposed voting desk exhibit in Mr. Brown's Attic;
- oversight of repairs to Mr. Brown's Attic and the historic exhibits housed therein;
- continued discussion of the Capitol Landscape Master Plan, specifically the Armenian Gardens; and
- development of a handout describing the role of the Capitol Building Advisory Committee that was distributed to new legislators during New Member Orientation.

Summary of Advisory Committee Recommendations

During FY 2008-09, the advisory committee forwarded a number of recommendations to the Capital Development Committee. Among the advisory committee's recommendations were the following:

- relocation of the Visitor Services tour guide desks and reception area from the north end of the first floor to the south end of the first floor to accommodate changes brought about by the Capitol Life Safety Project and enhancements to Capitol security, and a later relocation of the information desk from the west side to the east side of the south wing. The Capital Development Committee approved these recommendations;
- reinstatement of the biennial Colorado Quilting Council exhibition at the Capitol during the summer of 2009. The Capital Development Committee approved this recommendation;
- the acceptance of a proposal from the Colorado Council on the Arts for a rotating art exhibition to be located on the basement rotunda of the Capitol beginning in 2009. The proposal extended the "Creative Capitol" program, which brings permanent and rotating art exhibitions to the Lieutenant Governor's office and the Governor's office. The advisory committee recommended that the program be accepted on a one-year trial basis and given a one-time waiver of the advisory committee's prohibition of exhibits in the rotunda. The program was authorized through a memorandum of understanding between the Colorado Council on the Arts and the advisory committee. The Capital Development Committee approved this recommendation; and
- a recommendation that the Capital Development Committee place high priority on funds to match a potential State Historical Fund grant to repair the infrastructure of the Capitol dome. The Capital Development Committee considered the recommendation. Due to fiscal challenges, the state was unable to provide the match, and the grant was lost.

Proposals for Gifts of Art and Memorials

The advisory committee considers proposals for donated or loaned art or memorials to be placed in the public areas of the Capitol and its surrounding grounds. Current criteria limit the advisory committee to recommending no more than one proposal per year to the Capital Development Committee. The advisory committee did not receive any proposals for a gift or loan of art or a memorial during FY 2008-09.

Capitol Improvement Projects

The advisory committee is statutorily required to review plans to restore, redecorate, or reconstruct space within the public and ceremonial areas of the Capitol buildings group, the Legislative Services Building, and the Capitol driveways and surrounding grounds and to make pertinent recommendations to the Capital Development Committee.

Other construction and landscape improvement plans. The advisory committee learned of a number of improvements planned for the Capitol grounds, including exterior lighting improvements and plans for improvements to the Armenian Gardens. In addition, the advisory committee was kept apprised of plans to replace the Capitol elevators.

Projected repairs to the Capitol dome. The advisory committee kept abreast of the pending need for major repairs to the infrastructure supporting the Capitol dome. According to the Department of Personnel and Administration, repairs to the dome could cost between \$11 million and \$12 million and could take up to 18 months to complete. The Capitol dome stabilization project is important because the fasteners inside the dome are 20-30 years beyond their useful life, according to experts with the Real Estate Division. The project would require the closure of the dome and of the east side of the Capitol circle. The Department of Personnel and Administration received a \$3 million grant from the State Historical Fund for dome restoration, which was contingent upon an appropriation of \$8.6 million match from the General Assembly. The grant was forfeited when fiscal constraints prevented the General Assembly from making the matching appropriation.

Publications and Memorabilia

The advisory committee is statutorily required to present a plan to the Capital Development Committee for developing publications on the history of the Capitol and for developing Capitol memorabilia for sale to the public. These publications and memorabilia are to promote historic interest in the state Capitol and to raise money for the preservation of original and historic elements of the building. All proceeds from the sale of publications and memorabilia are credited to the advisory committee's special account within the Public Buildings Trust Fund.

Pursuant to the original plan adopted in 1991, the advisory committee published "The Pride of the People" in 1992, a color booklet on the history of the Capitol, and "Women's Gold," a color brochure on the history of the Women's Gold tapestry displayed in the Capitol.

The advisory committee subsequently developed a color video tour of the Capitol, a framed photo of the Capitol with authentic gold flakes from the dome, sets of note cards displaying the images of the state's symbols and emblems, brass replicas of the mile high elevation marker, and the State Symbols and Emblems brochure.

Visitors Services

The tour services provided to Capitol visitors are facilitated by one full-time Manager of Visitors Services and one part-time Assistant Manager of Visitors Services. Hourly summer assistants and year-round volunteers assist the manager with Capitol tours and special events. An estimated 250,000 persons visit the Capitol annually, of whom approximately 55,000 join guided tours of the building. The Manager of Visitors Services supervises a volunteer force of approximately 40 persons to facilitate the guided tours. Special tours of the dome and "Mr. Brown's Attic" are supervised by the Manager of Dome Services, an employee of the Joint Chambers, who also supervises work-study students and some volunteers.

Quilt show. The advisory committee recommended, and the Capital Development Committee approved, the reinstatement of the biennial Colorado Quilting Council quilt exhibition at the Capitol. The Colorado Quilting Council entered into a memorandum of understanding with the Capitol Complex Division, which facilitated communications and addressed with specificity how any issues or damages would be handled. The exhibition began with an opening reception in the Old Supreme Court Chambers on June 5, 2009. In total, 250 quilts were exhibited on the first, second, and third floors of the Capitol and were enjoyed by citizens from 46 states and 30 countries.

Visitors Services Ad Hoc Working Group. During the summer of 2008, an ad hoc working group was formed to study the governance and operations of the Visitors Services section. The group included representatives of Legislative Council Staff, the House and Senate, the Governor's Office, and the Visitors Services section and Dome Tour Services. Ms. Karen Goldman, Secretary of the Senate, represented both the Senate and the Capitol Building Advisory Committee. The ad hoc working group's charge was four-fold:

- to examine logistics, because the completion of the Life Safety project required the relocation of the tour guide desks from the north wing of the Capitol;
- to examine governance, since supervision of tour services is currently split between the Legislative Council Staff and the Joint Chambers;

- to review sales and marketing of items for sale at the tour guide desk; and
- to take an overall look at improvements to Visitors Services, with an emphasis on safety and security.

The working group met four times over the course of the summer to investigate these topics.

The findings of the ad hoc working group were largely supportive of, and no changes were recommended to, the current governance and operating model. The one recommendation regarding logistics was the relocation of the tour guide desks from the north end of the first floor to the south end. It was determined that further study of marketing and sales at the tour guide desk should be coordinated with advisory input from the Colorado Historical Society. The recommendation for relocation of the visitors services operation was ultimately adopted by both the Capitol Building Advisory Committee and the Capital Development Committee and took place in December 2008.