

MINUTES

CAPITOL PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

October 24, 2012
Room 144-S—Statehouse

Members Present

Jennie Chinn, State Historical Society, Chairperson
Representative Valdenia Winn
Joanne Budler, State Librarian
Landon Fulmer
Lana Gordon, Interim Secretary of Labor
Barry Greis, Statehouse Architect
Peggy Palmer
John Pinegar

Members Absent

Representative Elaine Bowers
Timothy R. Graham
Peter Jasso, Director, Kansas Creative Arts Industries Commission

Staff Present

Reed Holwegner, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Dennis Hodgins, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Chuck Reimer, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Matt Sterling, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Jeff Russell, Director, Legislative Administrative Services
Theresa Kiernan, Committee Assistant

The Chairperson called the meeting of the Capitol Preservation Committee to order. Following the opening remarks of the Chairperson, the members of the Committee introduced themselves.

The Chairperson recognized Chuck Reimer, Office of the Revisor of Statutes, for the purpose of reviewing the duties of the Committee as prescribed by KSA 75-2268 and KSA 75-2269 ([Attachment 1](#)).

KSA 75-2268 provides that the Committee shall develop plans, in consultation with the Joint Committee on Arts and Cultural Resources, to place a mural in the capitol commemorating the U.S. Supreme Court decision entered May 17, 1954, in the case of *Brown v. Board of Education* (347 U.S. 483, 74 S.Ct. 686, 98 L.Ed. 873).

KSA 75-2269 provides that the Committee shall:

- On or after January 1, 2013, approve all proposals for renovation of all areas of the state capitol, the capitol's visitor center and the grounds surrounding the state capitol to ensure that the historical beauty of the areas is preserved;
- Preserve the proper decor of such areas;
- Assure that any art or artistic displays are historically accurate and have historic significance;
- Determine the location and types of temporary displays and revolving displays in the state capitol including the visitor center;
- Oversee the reconfiguration or redecoration of committee rooms within the statehouse; and
- Submit to the Governor and to the Legislature an annual report of the activities and recommendations of the Committee.

Mr. Reimer noted Legislative Administrative Services is responsible for implementing the recommendations of the Committee.

The Chairperson stated the Legislative Coordinating Council has addressed the issues relating to the reconfiguration or redecoration of committee rooms in the Statehouse. She stated she does not see a role for the Committee in regard to the reconfiguration and redecoration of committee rooms this year.

In response to a question raised by Ms. Palmer concerning furniture in the Statehouse, the Chairperson stated the Committee's role predominantly concerns artwork.

Ms. Gordon noted the Committee was established to provide stability following the completion of the renovation of the capitol.

In response to a question raised by Mr. Fulmer, the Chairperson said it was her intent for the Committee to not exercise its jurisdiction over committee rooms except for the placement of artwork, wall hangings, wall displays and further renovation. She added she does not want to undo anything that has been done or upon which an agreement has been reached. She stated the issue should be set aside until the Legislature determines there is a need for the Committee to be involved.

Mr. Fulmer moved, Mr. Pinegar seconded, that the Committee limit its jurisdiction under paragraph (c)(5) of KSA 75-2269 to the permanent reconfiguration of committee rooms. The motion was adopted.

The Chairperson turned the Committee's attention to the agenda item designated as status reports on Committee projects.

The Chairperson noted the Walk of Honor would fill the sidewalks around the Capitol with plaques to memorialize notable Kansans. The Walk of Honor would give visitors to the Capitol a glimpse into the important contributions made by Kansas residents to the nation and

the world. The Chairperson noted the presence of former Senator Bob Dole at the first Walk of Honor ceremony.

The Chairperson recognized Reed Holwegner, Kansas Legislative Research Department, for an update on the mural commemorating the Supreme Court decision in *Brown v. Board of Education*.

Mr. Holwegner stated the work on the project commenced in 2010 when the Committee established a two-step selection process for a mural artist. The first step would encourage artists to apply through public dissemination of the Call for Artists, a Request for Qualification (RFQ) document ([Attachment 2](#)). Once artists have demonstrated their abilities, including a chronology of achievement and a record of professional art activity, in the second step, the Committee would invite selected artists to provide a mural proposal, as outlined in the Request for Proposals (RFP) document ([Attachment 3](#)).

Mr. Holwegner noted Cindi Morrison, Director of the Mulvane Art Museum at Washburn University, provided assistance in the first step of the selection process, but she will be relocating and will not be able to help in the second step of the selection process. Thirty-six artists from around the country, including 14 from Kansas, submitted applications in response to the Call for Artists ([Attachment 4](#)).

In response to a question by Mr. Pinegar asking whether it would be advisable to contact Washburn University to determine whether Ms. Morrison's successor would be available to assist in the second step of the selection process, the Chairperson stated she would contact Peter Jasso, Director, Kansas Creative Arts Industries Commission, prior to contacting the Mulvane Museum to see what role the Commission could play in the selection process.

The Chairperson turned the Committee's attention to the agenda item designated as discussion of fundraising.

The Chairperson asked Jeff Russell, Director, Legislative Administrative Services (LAS), to address whether any funds were available to the Committee.

Mr. Russell stated no funds were budgeted. He added that LAS may receive donations, pursuant to Legislative Coordinating Council (LCC) Policy No. 57, which requires the LCC to accept the monetary gift. If acceptance is approved, then the gift is to be expended for the purposes specified by the donor when the gift was made.

The Chairperson recognized Charles Jean-Baptiste, Brown Mural Project SB 54, Inc. Mr. Jean-Baptiste requested the Committee's endorsement of his organization. He stated the endorsement is necessary in order for the organization to conduct fundraising activities for the mural. He asked to be endorsed as a recognized or authorized fundraising organization of the Committee, but not as the exclusive fundraising organization of the Committee.

In response to a question by the Chairperson regarding the willingness of his organization to raise funds with the understanding that the Committee would select the artist and the artwork, Mr. Jean-Baptiste stated the organization would like to have some input on the selection of the artist and the artwork. He added the organization also would like to be kept informed during the process in order to be able to answer questions raised by donors or potential donors.

Mr. Fulmer asked staff to provide clarification of the statutory authority of the Committee under paragraph (c) (1) of KSA 75-2269, the approval of future renovation projects.

In response to a request by Representative Winn, the Chairperson directed staff to determine whether the Committee had the authority to endorse a particular nonprofit group for the purpose of raising funds for capital projects of the Committee.

The Chairperson turned the Committee's attention to the agenda item designated as discussion of evaluation of artists' credentials.

In response a question raised by Ms. Palmer regarding the list of artists, Mr. Holwegner stated the artists have submitted their credentials, pictures and documentation of their work, and whether they have been published.

Representative Winn added the RFQ in the call for artists included the selection criteria.

In response to a question by Ms. Palmer regarding how much money needed to be raised, Representative Winn drew the Committee's attention to the call for artists document and stated the costs probably will be submitted with the artist's final proposal, but cost submission is not required. She added that the cost or price is determined by negotiation.

Mr. Fulmer suggested the Committee obtain the assistance of a person from the one of the Regents institutions who is an expert on the work of John Steuart Curry. The members of the Committee concurred. Mr. Fulmer volunteered to contact the Board of Regents for suggestions in finding the expert.

The Chairperson suggested that artists with expertise in murals be appointed to serve on the Mural Subcommittee.

The meeting continued as Barry Greis, Statehouse Architect, led the Committee on a tour of the Visitors Center, which is scheduled to open in December 2013. Following the tour of the Visitors Center, the meeting continued.

The Chairperson appointed the following subcommittees:

- **Mural Subcommittee:** Representative Valdenia Winn, Chairperson; art historians from Regents' institutions; Landon Fulmer; Representative Elaine Bowers; and Peter Jasso.
- **Visitor Center Subcommittee:** Jenny Chinn, Chairperson; Peggy Palmer; Joanne Budler; and John Pinegar.
- **Guidelines for Temporary Displays Subcommittee:** Barry Greis, Chairperson; Jeff Russell; Lana Gordon; and Mary Madden.

The Chairperson offered to contact Mr. Graham to see on which subcommittee he would like to serve.

The subcommittees will meet on the morning of the day on which the Committee next meets.

The Chairperson said that a concern had been brought to her attention prior to the commencement of the meeting, over the mural commemorating the First Kansas (Colored) Voluntary Infantry Regiment. The Chairperson stated the Capitol Preservation Committee does not currently have jurisdiction over the memorial.

Mr. Pinegar moved, Representative Winn seconded, that the Chairperson be directed to send a letter to the Joint Committee on Arts and Cultural Resources, requesting the Joint Committee to either comment upon the First Kansas mural plans or be willing to support a change in responsibility for that mural from the Joint Committee to the Capitol Preservation Committee. The motion was adopted.

The Chairperson announced the Committee would meet next on December 12, 2012.

Mr. Pinegar moved, Representative Winn seconded, that the Committee adjourn. The motion was adopted.

The Committee adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

Prepared by Theresa Kiernan
Edited by Reed Holwegner

Approved by the Committee on:

December 12, 2012
(Date)

