

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICERS
Draft Minutes of the Board of Directors Winter Meeting
October 14-15, 2009
Nashville, Tennessee

Participants:

Ruth Pierpont, President; Elizabeth Hughes, Vice President; Michael Stevens, Treasurer; Jay D. Vogt, Immediate Past President; M. Wayne Donaldson, James Glass, Patrick McIntyre, Wilson Martin, L. Robert Puschendorf, Roger Roper, Frank White, Directors; Nancy Schamu, Elizabeth Belleville and Kristen Harbeson, NCSHPO staff. Frances McSwain, (AR), Michael Jackson (IL), Astrid Liverman (CO), Barbara Mattick (FL), Barbara Mitchell (IA), Elizabeth Johnson (SC), members; Serena Bellew (Department of Defense), John Fowler (Advisory Council on Historic Preservation), Janet Matthews (National Park Service). Members not present: Cathie Matthews, Secretary; Jean Cutler, Merlan E. Paaverud, Jr., Timothy Slavin, Directors.

Call to Order

The President called the meeting to order at 8:35 CDT with an expression of thanks from the Board of Directors to Patrick McIntyre and the Tennessee Historical Commission.

Minutes

The President presented the minutes from the July 9, 2009, Board of Directors Meeting in Big Bend, Texas. Michael Stevens moved, Wilson Martin seconded and the Board of Directors unanimously voted to approve the minutes.

Treasurers Report

The Treasurer reported on the September 2009 financials. He stated that the spending and revenue were on track thanks in part to the continuing benefit of the Cooperative Agreement with the National Park Service. The investment account is recovering slowly after the economic downturn.

Wilson Martin thanked the staff for its work on the Cooperative Agreement.

Wayne Donaldson moved, Jay Vogt seconded and the Board of Directors accepted the Treasurer's report.

The President indicated that Jay Vogt be added to the Investment Committee filling the vacancy created by the retirement of W. Ray Luce (GA)

President's Report

The President welcomed Dr, Janet Matthews of the National Park Service to the meeting.

The President reported on activities at the August Advisory Council meeting. Chairman John Nau spoke about the "perfect storm" of stimulus funds, state budget crises and Section 106

review. Deputy Assistant Secretary of Fish and Wildlife Will Shafroth requested a working group to discuss the problems and potential solutions. On August 27th NCSHPO, along with NATHPO and the ACHP staff, met with the Dep. Asst. Secretary and requested \$5 million for SHPOs for training and community outreach as well as \$5 million for Section 106 reviews, \$5 million for THPOs and \$500,000 for the ACHP to support Section 106 reviews. No further action has been reported, but NCSHPO staff continues to work with the Dep. Asst. Secretary.

The President also reported that the NCSHPO is initiating efforts to secure permanent full funding for the Historic Preservation Fund with the current initiative focused on the Consolidated Land Energy and Aquatic Resources (CLEAR) Act of 2009, which includes full and permanent funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

The current Appropriations bill includes a \$4million increase for SHPO funding in federal fiscal year 2010. Informal discussion about the NCSHPO request for FY 2011 have used the figure \$60 million for SHPOs.

The Senate confirmed Jon Jarvis as the National Park Service Director. Western SHPOs indicate that he has been supportive of cultural resources.

Legislative Update

The Government Relations Director, Elizabeth Belleville, updated the Directors on Congressional activities.

American Recovery and Revitalization Act (ARRA): Elizabeth Belleville referred to the President's report on NCSHPO's efforts for additional support to SHPOs for Section 106 reviews required to expedite ARRA funding. She added that the Dep. Asst. Secretary has contact the Federal Preservation Officers to obtain further information on their ARRA funding and projects.

Appropriations: Both the House and Senate have passed their Interior bills, which are expected to go to conference before the end of October. Congress has passed a short-term continuing resolution until the end of October, however it may be extended until November. NCSHPO sent a letter to the Chairmen and Ranking Members in support of the SHPO request of \$50 million for States and \$5 million for Inventory.

Tax Bills: A Commercial Tax Bill was introduced on October 2nd. Representatives Allyson Schwartz (D-PA) and Pat Tieberi (R-OH), sponsored H.R.3715 along with 44 co-sponsors. Senators Blanche Lincoln (D-AR) and Olympia Snowe (R-ME) sponsored S.1743 with no current co-sponsors. The bill includes a "green provision" which would increase the credit for projects that increase a building's efficiency. NCSHPO Board Member Jean Cutler spoke at a press conference in Philadelphia, which was also attended by Executive Director Nancy Schamu.

A Historic Homeowners Tax Bill was introduced on September 29th. Representatives Russ Carhahan (D-MO) and Mike Miller (R-OH) sponsored H.R. 3670 with 28 co-sponsors. NCSHPO sent a letter of support. The bill includes a 20% tax credit, up to \$60,000, which would be administered by SHPOS. The bill also includes a provision authorizing States to charge an administrative fee, which should be returned to SHPO offices for historic preservation activities.

CLEAR Act: Elizabeth Belleville reinforced the President's Report, describing the bill intended to stream line and make more efficient, transparent and accountable the development of federal energy resources. Title 4 includes a provision to fully fund the Land and Water Conservation

Fund (LWCF) and create an Oceans Trust Fund. The House Natural Resources Committee held two days of hearings, and although the Administration has not yet taken a position on the bill, Secretary of the Interior Salazar indicated his support of the LWCF provision and the need for greater historic preservation funding. NCSHPO, along with some federal partners, submitted testimony in support of adding full funding of the Historic Preservation Fund to the bill. NCSHPO staff has been working with other federal partners to create grassroots campaign to garner support for the effort.

At 9:30am CDT, the Board went into recess for Strategic Planning discussions.

The President reconvened the meeting at 8:40am CDT, October 15

Partners Report

John Fowler provided a brief update of current initiatives at the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation in response to the "Perfect Storm." They are offering Section 106 training for federal agencies unfamiliar with the process, have hired a new liaison officer for the Department of Energy, and are recruiting a new Army Headquarters Liaison officer. The ACHP Executive Director also announced that they expect a late-November roll-out for their new Chairman and council-members. The Preserve America Awards program has stalled pending more information from the White House and new Chairman.

Executive Director's Report

The Executive Director thanked the NCSHPO staff, Alice Baldrice of the Nevada SHPO office for her work on the BLM Programmatic Agreement, and John Fowler and the ACHP for his work in facilitating Energy Department ARRA discussions. She reviewed the timeline for the approval of the strategic plan and 2010 work plan,

2010 Budget

The Treasurer presented the draft budget and dues structure for 2010 which proposes no increase in dues and no increase in expenditures. Following the Strategic Plan discussions, the Executive Director proposed a flat budget, with no changes in the State dues. The Board discussed partnership contributions to Preservation Action and the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions. Patrick McIntyre recused himself from discussion on the Preservation Action contribution since he serves on the Preservation Action Board. Wilson Martin moved Robert Puschendorf seconded and the Board unanimously approved a \$25,000 contribution to Preservation Action. Roger Roper moved, Wayne Donaldson seconded and the Board unanimously approved a \$3000 contribution to National Alliance of Preservation Commissions, representing a \$500 increase over FY2009. Michael Stevens moved, Jay Vogt seconded and the Board unanimously approved the budget with the two approved increases in partnership contributions.

Wilson Martin moved, Wayne Donaldson seconded, and the Board unanimously voted to to authorize States to increase their State's dues to include amounts to cover reimbursement for their travel to NCSHPO meetings..

Sustainability Task Force

Wayne Donaldson briefly reported on his efforts to compile information and resources for sustainable design and historic preservation with a survey to SHPOs regarding LEED related activities in their offices.

Draft of October 26, 2009

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 11:00am

Kristen Harbeson for Cathie Matthews, Secretary