Old State Capitol Advisory Board

Minutes

Feb. 22

Members present via Zoom: Liz Harris, Vivian Kerr, Courtney Dampf, Catherine Newsome,

Wayne Parent, Leslie Hurst and Paul Arrigo

Staff members present: Mary Durusau and Suzette Crocker

Board Chair Liz Harris welcomed everyone to the call. She called everyone’s attention to the photo of the Old State Capitol on the cover of the Real Yellow Pages. She also noted the Sunday Advocate section front on the newest exhibit: “Jacob Riis: How the Other Half Lives.”

The minutes were approved with a motion by Leslie Hurst and seconded by Wayne Parent.

Liz talked about the need for an update for the strategic plan. Mary Durusau said the staff members would divide the plan into sections and bring it back to the board in May for more discussion.

Mary shared photos of the work being done on the exterior of the building. For years, the metal window surrounds have been rusting and plaster is peeling from the building. The Office of Facility Planning has allocated $580,000 to address these issues on the North Boulevard face. Several problems have been discovered during this work. The previous plaster was analyzed and included tings it shouldn’t have including Portland cement. The metal band that encircles the building is separating at the joints. Cracks are visible above and below all around the building. The hope is this work will provide answers for how to address these issues. The Secretary of State’s office has submitted an emergency capital outlay request.

Suzette Crocker shared that work is beginning on the Spirits of Louisiana event. We are hopeful to be able to host it again this year.

Suzette also introduced the newest member of the OSC “family.” Curator Lauren Davis has a son, Lawson Gabriel Davis, born Dec. 10, 2020.

There being no further business to come before the board, Wayne Parent moved to adjourn and Lelise Hurst seconded the motion.