

NOTES
STATE CAPITOL COMMISSION
Artifacts Subcommittee
August 14, 2015

1. Greeting/Introductions

Commissioner Martineau called the meeting to order at 8:35am. He expressed his gratitude for everyone's attendance and requested that the attendees introduce themselves. The following were in attendance:

<u>Members</u>	<u>Staff</u>	<u>Other Attendees</u>
Commissioner Bob Martineau	Thaddeus Watkins	Elizabeth Coker
Commissioner Bob Oglesby	Peter Heimbach	Representative, Sons of Confederate Veterans
Treasurer David Lillard	Jim Hoobler	Representative, National AM Vets
Senator Jack Johnson		Representative, Disabled Veterans
Dr. Reavis Mitchell		

2. Purpose

To discuss a strategy for developing a process and the criteria that will be used in evaluating the artifacts which are displayed in the State Capitol.

- a. Recommendation Due Date and Subcommittee Limitations:
 - i. Commissioner Martineau stated the policy/criteria recommendation is due to the full Capitol Commission by Thursday, October 1, 2015 unless the Commission grants an extension.
 - ii. The Subcommittee is charged with developing a policy recommendation and identifying a process for evaluating certain characteristics, but its members will not be voting on specific artifacts as that authority is vested in the full Capitol Commission.

3. Discussion

- a. Presentation by the State Architect

Peter Heimbach provided each attendee with a packet analysis which contained the artwork evaluation criteria and processes (if applicable) of other states. The results varied as some states use boards and commissions to develop and implement their policies while others base their decisions on a broad public consensus. The articles were briefly reviewed during the meeting but they will be available to view on the Capitol Commission website.

- b. Capitol Commission Purview

The Commission's direct authority affects the State Capitol and the Capitol grounds, as well as its perimeters. The Commission's advisory authority extends to the surrounding buildings such as Cordell Hull.

- c. Legislative Resolution

Commissioner Martineau stated that each bust currently displayed in the Capitol was established by a legislative resolution of some sort. Peter Heimbach elaborated that the artwork in the private offices is

borrowed from the State Museum, but it is controlled by the individual, whereas the State Museum has discretion over the artwork displayed in the public areas.

Senator Johnson asked if the Capitol Commission had the authority to remove artifacts that were placed in the Capitol by the General Assembly. Thad Watkins responded that the resolution establishing an artifact does not dictate its placement; the implicit direction is subject to the Capitol Commission regardless of the resolution. However, Commissioner Martineau stated that the subcommittee would research whether certain legislative resolutions trump the statute that established the Capitol Commission.

Commissioner Bob Oglesby asked how the decision implications would affect the permanent displays. Commissioner Martineau responded that the Capitol Commission could evaluate the current artifacts on a periodic basis and decide to rotate artifacts, or the new policy could be prospective.

d. Best Path Forward

Peter Heimbach will work with other staff to create a comprehensive draft that will be distributed to the subcommittee members. The working group will consider suggestions on how to build on the existing criteria which will include the scope of work, future evaluations of new and current objects, and a possible grandfather clause. Commissioner Martineau reiterated that the Subcommittee will not be voting on specific artifacts; it will only be creating the criteria/process of evaluation.

Public comments and inquiries are welcome throughout the process. Individuals may direct their communications to Capitol.Artifacts@tn.gov.

Commissioner Oglesby requested that the Subcommittee document a schedule for the various process phases.

e. Next Meeting Date

The draft criteria will be circulated to the Subcommittee members by Tuesday, September 1, 2015. The next Subcommittee meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 8, 2015 from 8:30 to 10:30am. The Subcommittee may have one (1) more meeting following September 8th, but prior to its October 1st deadline.

4. Adjournment – Approximately 9:10am

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