

Capitol Restoration Task Force

House Majority Caucus Room
Statehouse, Boise Idaho
October 5, 2005

DRAFT MINUTES (Subject to Committee Approval)

The meeting was called to order at 8:47 am on October 5, 2005 by Co-chair Pro Tem Bob Geddes. Other committee members present were: Co-chair Speaker Bruce Newcomb, Senators Bart Davis, Joe Stegner, Brad Little, Mike Burkett, and Representatives Lawrence Denney, Mike Moyle, Julie Ellsworth and Wendy Jaquet. Also in attendance were Ad Hoc committee members Pam Ahrens and Carl Bianchi, and Legislative Services staff members Eric Milstead and Lisa Kauffman.

Others present were Senators Denton Darrington and Hal Bunderson; Jack Lemley and Tom Woodall of Lemley and Associates, Inc.; Ward Simpson, Paul Brown and Chuck Kluener of 3D/International; Jan Frew, Tim Mason, and Rick Thompson, Department of Administration; Charles Hummel, Hummel Architects PLLC; General Jack Kane, Capitol Commission; Maria Barratt, Division of Financial Management; Sheila Ison, Legislative Services; and Jeff Youtz, Supervisor, Legislative Services Budget & Policy Analysis Office.

Co-chair Senator Geddes welcomed everyone and asked the committee to approve the minutes from both the May 24, 2005 and the August 22, 2005 meetings. **Senator Little** made a motion to accept the minutes and it was seconded by **Representative Denney**. Motion was unanimously approved by the committee.

Eric Milstead presented a slide show from the committee's trip to the State Capitol in Austin, Texas. Not all of the members were able to attend so Eric briefed them on what the committee learned. The main issue of concern that arose was the fact that the Texas Capitol had some water leakage problems within the garden wings addition. **Jack Lemley** addressed this by assuring the committee that the technology now was far more superior than it was ten years ago when the Texas Capitol was remodeled and that a workable plan would be to encapsulate the Idaho wings addition with an impermeable substance that would not allow any water in. He stated that he had used this technology in projects that were built underneath the surface of the ocean and that they had no leakage problems whatsoever.

Committee members that were on the trip commented on the fact that even though you were two stories underground that there was sufficient natural light available and such a feeling of openness that you didn't feel as if you were underground. They felt that Texas had done a wonderful job on their renovation of the State Capitol and on the addition of the wings and that we should closely follow their basic plans while adding updates. One comment that was made was that the hearing rooms need to have easy technology access above or below the rooms so they can be updated when newer and faster technology is available.

Pam Ahrens handed out the original 1920 floor plan of the Idaho Capitol building for reference. At that time most of state government was housed in this building. Looking to the future, **Director Ahrens** handed out a report which went over existing space utilization, the 2000 Master Plan, reassessment of future Statehouse needs, cost estimates of sequencing of restoration and addition of garden level wings, a financial analysis, and a cost to move, relocate and rent swing space while the renovations are being done. She also went over a rough draft timeline of projected projects and how all this is going to come together (see handouts).

Paul Brown presented some architectural drawings of the garden level atrium wings complete with committee hearing rooms and offices in a one- and two-story configuration. Locations of stairwells, elevators, and circulation areas were noted, as was the underground tunnel which could connect to the Ada County Courthouse. Plans for the Courthouse were also reviewed with an addition built onto the back that would provide functional office space. Views from the inside of the garden atrium looking upwards to the Capitol dome outside were also portrayed which gave this committee a sense of the openness of the design. **Senator Davis** asked that copies of the architectural drawings to be sent to the committee before the next meeting.

Senator Little asked if the cost per square foot would be reduced by going down two levels versus one level and **Mr. Brown** replied that the cost would be the same, but if you went down a third or fourth level then the costs would rise substantially because of the extra shoring that would be needed. The cost for two single-level wings would be \$17M and to do two two-story wings would be a total cost of \$34M. Cost per square foot would be approximately \$340 for the garden level wings and \$325 per square foot to remodel the Ada County Courthouse.

Representative Ellsworth requested that **Director Ahrens** add the restoration of the Ada County Courthouse to the timeline spreadsheet that she passed out so that they could see where that fell in the overall construction plan.

Co-Chair Geddes asked the committee where they wanted to go at this point, and the following motions were made:

Original Motion: Moved by Senator Stegner and seconded by Senator Davis, motion to instruct staff to examine the following scenario for the next meeting:

- ❖ Have the Ada County Courthouse retrofit (not the addition) done by April of 2007
- ❖ In April 2007, vacate the Capitol and have those tenants move into the Borah Building, JRW Building, or whatever space is available in the Capitol Mall
- ❖ Start the renovation and move back into the Capitol by the fall of 2009
- ❖ In conjunction with the renovation, start the building of the two-story garden level atrium wings on each side of the existing Capitol

Substitute Motion: Moved by Speaker Bruce Newcomb and seconded by Representative Wendy Jaquet, motion to instruct staff to explore the options outlined in the original motion plus do a comparison of doing just a one-story garden level atrium wing on each side of the existing Capitol versus two levels of wings on each side. And, include the cost of a tunnel that would connect from the wings to the Ada County Courthouse.

Amended Substitute Motion: Moved by Representative Moyle and seconded by Representative Ellsworth, motion to instruct staff to examine the costs and utilization concerning the Ada County Courthouse of remodeling and adding the addition to it.

Co-Chair Geddes requested that the vote be postponed and instructed staff to examine all three motions above so that we cover our bases and have an accurate cost comparison of the motions made.

It was decided that the next meeting would be held on November 9th, 2005, at 1:00 pm. The committee decided to formally invite the Governor's Office to the next meeting because they had not previously participated in these discussions and **Co-Chair Geddes** and the committee want buy in from everyone involved.

Senator Little made a motion to adjourn and it was seconded by Senator Stegner. The vote was unanimous.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:54 pm.