Capitol Preservation Commission
Meeting Minutes
August 20, 2026, 10:00 a.m.
Oklahoma History Center
Dr. LeRoy H. Fischer Board Room, 3rd Floor
800 Nazih Zuhdi Dr.
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Trait Thompson	Keith Jones	Víctor Pozadas
Aaron Cooper	Monte Kaul	Matthew Radcliffe
Becky Gooch	Karen Keith	Hunter Zearley

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Barbara Braught	Max Driver	Elaine Kidd
C.J. Cavin	Brent Gibson	Tracie Chapman

GUESTS:

Beverly Hicks, OMES	Liam Larson, OAC
Karl Kramer, OAG, Commission Counsel	Mary Jackson, OMES DGC

♦*Office of Management and Enterprise Services (OMES); Deputy General Counsel (DGC)*
♦ *Oklahoma Arts Council (OAC)* ♦ *Oklahoma Attorney General Office (OAG)*

1. **Announcement of filing of the meeting notice and posting of the agenda in accordance with the Open Meeting Act:** [Trait Thompson, Chair]

   Chairman Trait Thompson informed commission members that notice for this meeting had been filed with the Secretary of State and that an agenda had been posted in accordance with the Open Meeting Act.

2. **Call to order, Roll Call, and Determination of Quorum:** [Chair]

   Chairman Thompson called the meeting to order at 3:01 PM. A roll call was taken, and a quorum was confirmed.

3. **Welcome/Introductions:** [Chair]

   Chairman Thompson welcomed members and guests to the meeting.

4. **Discussion and possible action on approval of meeting minutes from June 11, 2026.**

   Karen Keith moved to approve the meeting minutes for June. Victor Pozadas seconded the motion. The following votes were recorded, and the motion carried:

   Mr. Cooper, aye; Ms. Gooch, aye; Mr. Jones, aye; Mr. Kaul, aye; Ms. Keith, aye; Mr. Pozadas, aye; Mr. Radcliffe, aye; Mr. Zearley, aye; Mr. Thompson, aye.

5. **Presentation and update on State Capitol Arch.** [AE-1, Matthew Radcliffe, State Capitol Architect and Curator]

   Matthew Radcliffe provided an update on the State Capitol Arch project. Exterior stone cladding work was ongoing, including installation of the limestone above the granite base. Materials for the granite base were on site, with installation to follow completion of the limestone work. Final site grading had begun, with sidewalks, irrigation, and sod installation to follow. Radcliffe also showed photographs of the ongoing limestone installation and the progress on the arch.

   Mr. Radcliffe reported that the project remained within budget, although contingencies were limited. The overall completion target remained December. The initial target for substantial completion had been around September but had shifted to the first part of November due to installation work affecting the schedule.

   Regarding the surrounding grounds, Mr. Radcliffe reported that installation of the previously approved Gold Star Family Memorial Monument remained dependent on private fundraising, and no installation schedule was available. He also noted that he and Jarica Walsh had met with Pete Reed the previous week to discuss other fundraising efforts that might be underway for additional monuments. The Oklahoma Arts Council was developing an overall plan for the surrounding area to bring back before the Commission.

   No action was taken.

6. **Discussion and possible action to approve freestanding wayfinding signage for Capitol South Plaza near the lower steps.** [Matthew Radcliffe, State Capitol Architect and Curator]

   Chairman Thompson noted that the proposed signage renderings had been reviewed at the previous meeting and that the Commission would consider action on the proposal.

   Matthew Radcliffe reviewed the site plan showing the existing bronze sign adjacent to the entry ramp and two proposed freestanding signs near the handrails at approximately the third points of the lower steps. He described the proposed signs as having weighted bases and vertical posts designed to match the existing handrails, with signage directing visitors to the Capitol entrance.

   Mr. Radcliffe reported that preliminary discussions with a metal fabricator indicated an estimated cost of approximately $2,000 per sign, for a total of $4,000 to put the two wayfinding signs in place. He noted that additional detailing was needed to confirm the final weight of the bases and that coordination with OMES would be needed regarding funding.

   Victor Pozadas moved to approve freestanding wayfinding signage for Capitol South Plaza near the lower steps. Becky Gooch seconded the motion. The following votes were recorded, and the motion carried:

Mr. Cooper, aye; Ms. Gooch, aye; Mr. Jones, aye; Mr. Kaul, aye; Ms. Keith, aye; Mr. Pozadas, aye; Mr. Radcliffe, aye; Mr. Zearley, aye; Mr. Thompson, aye.

7. **Discussion and possible action to approve relocation and reinstallation of artworks on the First Floor of the Governor's Mansion.** [Liam Larson, Collections Manager]

   Liam Larson presented a proposed change to the artwork displayed above the mantel in the Oklahoma Room of the Governor's Mansion. He explained that, at the Governor's request for a landscape, *A Moment of Peril* by Bob Thomason would be replaced with *Untitled (Landscape)* by Richard Goetz.

   Monte Kaul moved to approve the relocation and reinstallation of artwork in the Governor's Mansion. Karen Keith seconded the motion. The following votes were recorded, and the motion carried:

   Mr. Cooper, aye; Ms. Gooch, aye; Mr. Jones, aye; Mr. Kaul, aye; Ms. Keith, aye; Mr. Pozadas, aye; Mr. Radcliffe, aye; Mr. Zearley, aye; Mr. Thompson, aye.

8. **Collections Manager Report.** [Liam Larson, Collections Manager]
   Update on the Capitol Re/Installation Project.

   Liam Larson reported that temperature and humidity levels continued to be monitored at four locations inside the Capitol and one exterior location. Based on the past 10 months of data, average humidity was 43.78% and average temperature was 70.45 degrees Fahrenheit. Larson noted that monitoring would continue, with a full year of data expected to be available by the next meeting.

   Mr. Larson reported that installation of interpretive text panels and permanent signage was ongoing throughout the Capitol. Existing foam core labels were being replaced with etched zinc panels, and the installation was approximately halfway complete.

   Mr. Larson also reported that scheduling was underway to clean the two bronze statues on the South Plaza, with cleaning tentatively planned for late September to help address the effects of weather exposure.

   No action taken.

9. **Discussion and possible action to approve schedule of meetings for 2027 at 3 p.m.** [Chair]

Feb. 18	**Jun. 17**	**Oct. 21**
Apr. 15	**Aug. 19**	**Dec. 16**

   Monte Kaul moved to approve the 2027 meeting schedule, with meetings to be held at 3:00 p.m. Hunter Zearley seconded the motion. The following votes were recorded, and the motion carried:

Mr. Cooper, aye; Ms. Gooch, aye; Mr. Jones, aye; Mr. Kaul, aye; Ms. Keith, aye; Mr. Pozadas, aye; Mr. Radcliffe, aye; Mr. Zearley, aye; Mr. Thompson, aye.

10. **Discussion and possible action to appoint a rules liaison(s) pursuant to OAC 655:10-1-6 for Title 115: Capitol Preservation Commission.** [Karl Kramer, AAG, Commission Counsel and Mary Jackson, OMES Legal Counsel]

    Mary Jackson, OMES Legal Counsel, explained that OMES Legal handles the drafting and coordination of administrative rules for the Commission. She noted that the Commission was required to appoint a rules liaison to help ensure compliance with rulemaking deadlines and procedural requirements. Jackson recommended Jonathon Grimes as the primary rules liaison and Elyse Mendoza as the backup, both from the OMES Legal Division.

    Becky Gooch moved to appoint Jonathon Grimes and Elyse Mendoza as rules liaisons for Title 115, Capitol Preservation Commission. Karen Keith seconded the motion. The following votes were recorded, and the motion carried:

    Mr. Cooper, aye; Ms. Gooch, aye; Mr. Jones, aye; Mr. Kaul, aye; Ms. Keith, aye; Mr. Pozadas, aye; Mr. Radcliffe, aye; Mr. Zearley, aye; Mr. Thompson, aye.

11. **Discussion and possible action to appoint attestation officer(s) pursuant to OAC 655:10-1-6 for Title 115: Capitol Preservation Commission.** [Karl Kramer, AAG, Commission Counsel and Mary Jackson, OMES Legal Counsel]

    Mary Jackson, OMES Legal Counsel, explained that attestation officers verify that required steps in the administrative rulemaking process have been completed. She recommended appointing Monte Kaul and Keith Jones to serve as the Commission's attestation officers, replacing the previously listed individual with Mr. Kaul and retaining Mr. Jones.

    Hunter Zearley moved to appoint Monte Kaul and Keith Jones as attestation officers for Title 115, Capitol Preservation Commission. Victor Pozadas seconded the motion. The following votes were recorded, and the motion carried:

    Mr. Cooper, aye; Ms. Gooch, aye; Mr. Jones, aye; Mr. Kaul, aye; Ms. Keith, aye; Mr. Pozadas, aye; Mr. Radcliffe, aye; Mr. Zearley, aye; Mr. Thompson, aye.

12. **Adjournment:**

    There being no further business, Chairman Thompson adjourned the meeting at 3:18 p.m.