



Capitol Complex Advisory Council Report

SEPTEMBER 2024

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Background

In 1997, the Montana Legislature enacted House Bill No. 123 (Chapter No. 476, Laws of 1997), an act creating the Capitol Complex Advisory Council (2-17-801, et al., MCA). This legislation was introduced at the request of the Department of Administration to establish a council to oversee the placement of art and memorials on the Capitol Complex and grounds.

The Capitol Complex Advisory Council (CCAC) consists of nine members:

- four legislators, two from each house, appointed every two years on a bipartisan basis;
- two public representatives appointed by the Governor; and
- the director or the director's designee of each of the following agencies:
 - the Montana Historical Society
 - the Montana Arts Council
 - the Department of Administration

A list of the Council's current membership is contained in Appendix A. The statutory duties and responsibilities assigned to the Council include:

- reviewing proposals for long-term displays or the naming of State buildings on the Capitol Complex;
- advising the Legislature on the long-term display of busts, statues, memorials, monuments, or art displays within the Capitol Complex, including the executive residence and the original governor's mansion;
- advising the Department of Administration on interior decoration of the Capitol;
- advising the Department of Administration on grounds maintenance and displays;
- advising the Department of Administration on policies governing maintenance and beautification of the Capitol, executive residence, and original governor's mansion; and
- advising the Department of Administration on establishing and maintaining a long-range master plan for the orderly development of the Capitol Complex.

In addition, the Council must report to the Legislature by September 15 of each year preceding a legislative session on requests that it has reviewed for naming buildings and for long-term placement of items in the Capitol or on the Capitol Complex grounds. The report must include a recommendation on whether reviewed requests meet certain statutory criteria. If a request meets the criteria, the Council must recommend a time frame during which the project should be authorized.

Proposals

The Governor's Office of Community Service made a formal proposal for a long-term placement of a memorial on the Capitol grounds at a future date. This was approved pending approval of the design by CCAC.

The Montana Historical Society made a formal proposal to place a memorial plaque for Marilyn Miller near the Senate Leadership Office suite on the third floor of the Capitol, per 68th Legislative Session SB 414. This was approved.

Representative Laura Smith made a formal proposal to place a memorial plaque for Charles Johnson near the Charles Whiteside plaque on the third floor of the Capitol, per 68th Legislative Session HB 855. This was approved.

Council Meetings in 2022 and 2024

December 5, 2022 Meeting

The following actions took place:

1. Update on former Governor Judy Martz Statue / Bust - *Dave Galt*

- Presentation on statue model by artist Gareth Curtiss.
- **Motion:** Denise King moved to accept the design and stance of the artist's model, with the exception of the face. Motioned seconded by Sen. Kary. Motion passed.

2. Organ Donation Memorial - *Sarah Sadowski*

- Presentation on the formal proposal to allow for the construction of the Organ Donor Memorial in Capitol Park by Sarah Sadowski and memorial architect Ken VanDeWalle.
- **Motion:** Denise King moved that the CCAC approve the Memorial to Montana Organ Donors for long-term placement on the Capitol Complex grounds, with the understanding that GSD's general responsibility and the CCAC's authority over this memorial project continues throughout the memorial's construction and during the duration of the display, according to the Capitol Complex Master Plan Act, Title 2, Chapter 17, Part 8. Motion seconded by Sen. Kary.
- Diane Sands amended the motion to include language stating that no State General Fund could be used for the funding of this project. Amended motion passed.

- **Motion:** Denise King moved to amend the CCAC's 2022 biennial report to SAVA to include approval of the memorial's long-term placement in accordance with §2-17-807, MCA. Motion passed.

3. Capitol Complex Master Plan Progress Report - *Russ Katherman*

- General discussion and clarifying questions by the Council.

May 9, 2024 Meeting

The following actions took place:

1. Governor Judy Martz Statue Final Approval - *Dave Galt*

- Placement – July 29, 2024, at 12:00 Noon
- Presentation on statue model by artist Gareth Curtiss.
- **Motion:** Sen. Esp moved for approval, Sen. Dunwell seconds. Motion passed.

2. Approval of Naming for MHC Spaces - *Molly Kruckenberg*

- Presentation on proposed naming of internal and external spaces at the Montana Historical Society as approved by Historical Society Board of Trustees.
- **Motion:** Sen. Esp moved for approval, Sen. Dunwell seconds. Motion passed.

3. Outdoor Sculpture Placement for MHC - *Molly Kruckenberg*

- Presentation of placement of outdoor monuments and sculptures at the Montana Historical Society.
- **Motion:** Sen. Esp moved for approval of new and existing, Ms. Holmes seconds. Motion passed.

4. Charles Johnson Plaque - *Rep. Laura Smith*

- Presentation of proposed location and language for Charles Johnson plaque as provided by HB 855.
- **Motion:** Ms. Kruckenberg moved for approval, Sen. Dunwell seconds. Motion passed.

5. Secretary Miller Plaque - *Jennifer Bottomly-O'looney*

- Presentation of proposed locations and language for naming the offices of the Secretary of the Senate, Room 302, for Secretary Miller as provided by SB 414.

- **Motion:** Sen. Esp moved for approval, Ms. Kruckenberg seconds. Motion passed.

6. Informational Items

- Capitol Complex Master Plan Progress Report - *Randy Stephens*
- Organ Donation Memorial Update - *Sarah Sadowski*

Recorded minutes of all CCAC meetings are available at ccac.mt.gov.

Legislative Action

None Required.

Summary

Over the course of the biennium, the Council met twice, and received two requests for the placement of plaques, in accordance with the 68th Legislative Session, SB 414, and HB 855.

Appendix A

Capitol Complex Advisory Council Members - Updated August 2024

Legislative Members

Representative Casey Knudsen

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Representative Derek Harvey

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