

**Capitol Preservation Commission
Meeting Minutes
June 11, 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	Victor Pozadas
Tracie Chapman	Monte Kaul	Matthew Radcliffe
Aaron Cooper	Karen Keith	Hunter Zearley

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Barbara Braught
C.J. Cavin
Max Driver
Brent Gibson
Becky Gooch
Elaine Kidd

GUESTS:

Beverly Hicks, OMES
Karl Kramer, OAG
Liam Larson, OAC
Shawn Ashley, Quorum Call

◆ *Office of Management and Enterprise Services (OMES); Deputy General Counsel (DGC)*

◆ *Oklahoma Arts Council (OAC) ◆ Oklahoma Attorney General Office (OAG)*

The regularly scheduled June 18, 2026, meeting was rescheduled to June 11, 2026.

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 10:00 AM. A roll call was taken, and a quorum was confirmed.

3. Welcome/Introductions: [Chair]

Chairman Thompson welcomed members and guests to the meeting.

4. Introduction and Welcome of New Commission Member, Karen Keith, President of the Oklahoma Historical Society. [Chair]

Chairman Thompson welcomed new Commission member Karen Keith. Ms. Keith introduced herself and provided a brief overview of her background and experience.

5. Discussion and possible action on approval of meeting minutes from April 16, 2026.

Victor Pozadas moved to approve the meeting minutes for April. Tracie Chapman seconded the motion. The following votes were recorded, and the motion carried:

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

6. 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, noting that construction remains on schedule for substantial completion in September. Exterior stone cladding work is ongoing, with the first row of limestone panels being installed. Modifications are being made to the crosswalk curb ramp connections at the south corners due to existing light poles and grade changes. The project remains on schedule and within budget, with contingencies remaining.

No action was taken.

7. Discussion and possible action on accepting the proposed incorporation of a monument honoring Gold Star Families into the State Capitol Arch Grounds, as described in HB 4486. [Matthew Radcliffe, State Capitol Architect and Curator]

Matthew Radcliffe presented the proposed incorporation of a Gold Star Families monument into the State Capitol Arch Grounds, as authorized by HB 4486. He noted the monument will be a 24-foot-by-14-foot rectangle, with the monument centered within the site and a unique granite etching facing inward toward the Arch. The monument will face Lincoln Boulevard, consistent with other Gold Star Families monuments in Oklahoma. No state dollars will be used for the project. The foundation and committee responsible for the monument are working to complete fundraising for the installation of the sidewalks and monument foundation. A spoke sidewalk is being considered as an alternative to the radial sidewalk to reduce costs. Mr. Radcliffe also presented the final etchings to be incorporated as part of the gift.

Monte Kaul moved to approve the proposed incorporation of a monument honoring Gold Star Families into the State Capitol Arch Grounds, as described in HB 4486. Tracie Chapman seconded the motion. The following votes were recorded, and the motion carried:

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

8. Presentation and discussion on proposed freestanding wayfinding signage for Capitol South Plaza near the lower steps. [Matthew Radcliffe, State Capitol Architect and Curator]

Mr. Radcliffe discussed the proposed freestanding wayfinding signage for the Capitol South Plaza near the lower steps. The signage is intended to direct visitors to the southeast entrance and ramp while maintaining the monumental steps as an integral part of the Capitol. The proposed sign would be low and unobtrusive, with detailing and materials similar to the existing handrails. The sign would be freestanding and movable, with a bolt plate or similar attachment to the granite steps to deter unauthorized movement. The signs could be removed for special events or large assemblies. The item will be brought back to the Commission for action at the August meeting.

Commissioner Aaron Cooper asked whether the proposed signage could be affixed to the existing handrails rather than being freestanding. Mr. Radcliffe explained that attaching the signage to the handrails would interfere with required clearances and the accessible route. Commissioner Cooper also asked about the weight and mobility of the proposed sign. Mr. Radcliffe explained that the sign would be designed with a weighted steel base and could be moved with a dolly or hand truck when necessary.

Chairman Thompson noted that recent high winds demonstrated the need for the sign to have a strong and stable base. Mr. Radcliffe explained that the sign would be designed to be sufficiently weighted to prevent it from being easily lifted or moved.

No action was taken.

9. Discussion and possible action to approve the proposed temporary exhibition of art and artifacts celebrating America's Semiquincentennial in the Fourth Floor Rotunda until July 6, 2026, sponsored by Speaker Kyle Hilbert. [Liam Larson, Collections Manager]

Mr. Larson presented the proposed temporary exhibition of art and artifacts celebrating America's Semiquincentennial in the Fourth Floor Rotunda. The small display, located in front of the Will Rogers portrait, includes reproductions of Revolutionary War artifacts, including the Declaration of Independence and Thomas Jefferson's lap desk, as well as colonial currency. The exhibit is

intended to remain on display through the Independence Day holiday and will be deinstalled on July 6, 2026. The exhibit is sponsored by Speaker of the House of Representatives Kyle Hilbert.

Hunter Zearley moved to approve the proposed temporary exhibition of art and artifacts celebrating America's Semiquincentennial in the Fourth Floor Rotunda until July 6, 2026. Karen Keith seconded the motion. The following votes were recorded, and the motion carried:

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

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

Mr. Larson discussed the proposed relocation and installation of artwork on the first floor of the Governor's Mansion. The works include "*The Reverend John Atkinson*" by Gilbert Charles Stuart and "*Old Houses*" by Robert E. Curry. The works will be exchanged between the Dining Room and the First Lady's Office, with "*The Reverend John Atkinson*" moving from the First Lady's Office to the Dining Room and "*Old Houses*" moving from the Dining Room to the First Lady's Office.

Karen Keith moved to approve relocation and reinstallation of artworks on the First Floor of the Governor's Mansion, as presented. Victor Pozadas seconded the motion. The following votes were recorded, and the motion carried:

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

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

Mr. Larson provided an update on the Collections Manager's report, including the presentation of Greg Burns' watercolor, "Sunset Over the Pacific," depicting the USS Oklahoma (SSN 802) on the House floor on April 27, 2026. The presentation was sponsored by Speaker of the House of Representatives Kyle Hilbert. Representative Annie Menz and Rear Admiral (Ret.) Greg Slavonic provided remarks.

Mr. Larson reported that the team is monitoring temperature and humidity levels throughout the Capitol, with a target of approximately 50% humidity and 70 degrees Fahrenheit. Data is collected at five locations in and around the Capitol, including an exterior location, and is compiled into weekly reports. Mr. Larson noted that consistency and avoiding significant fluctuations in

temperature and humidity are key considerations. The team will continue to monitor the data and, after collecting 12 months of data, will make recommendations for any necessary adjustments.

Mr. Larson reported that the Arts Council is preparing recommendations for artwork risk mitigation to protect certain key artworks that may be at risk. Potential measures include stanchions, glazing, elevated pedestals, protective vitrines, and advanced condition monitoring. The Arts Council is developing the recommendations in-house and will present the results to the Commission at a future meeting.

Chairman Thompson asked whether the busts of Clara Luper and Alan Wright are frequently touched by visitors. Mr. Larson noted that visitor contact does occur, although those works are not among the most frequently touched. He identified the Guardian replica on the ground floor and the portrait of Wilma Mankiller on the fifth floor as examples of artworks that receive more visitor contact.

Mr. Larson reported that interpretive didactic panels and permanent labels are being installed throughout the Capitol. The didactic panels provide information on the curatorial themes of the different floors and areas of the Capitol and offer insight into why artworks are placed in specific locations. Temporary foamcore labels are being replaced with permanent etched zinc labels.

Mr. Larson provided an update on the annual preservation of the two bronze sculptures on the South Plaza. He noted that the sculptures have been cleaned as part of their annual preservation due to their exposure to the elements. The annual cleaning helps maintain the sculptures in the best possible condition as they greet visitors to the Capitol.

No action taken.

12. Chair Updates and Discussion:

Possible presentation and/or discussion on the ongoing State Capitol building construction and the Governor's Mansion construction.

No updates were provided by the Chair.

No action taken.

13. Adjournment:

There being no further business, Tracie Chapman moved to adjourn the meeting. Monte Kaul seconded the motion. Seeing no opposition, the meeting adjourned at 10:24 a.m.