



2022-23 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: August 14, 2023; 5:00-7:00pm
Zoom

P O T O M A C
C H A P T E R
A M E R I C A N
S O C I E T Y O F
L A N D S C A P E
A R C H I T E C T S

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**Executive Committee
2022-2023**

President
Carla Ellem (Present)

President-Elect
Matthew Sellers (Present)

Immediate Past President
Annie Varma (Absent)

Trustee
Rob Tilson (Present)

Secretary
Jules Krinsky (Present)

Treasurer
Daniel Straub (Present)

Executive Director
Susan Newman (Present)

Members At-Large
Khalid Almo (Absent)
Brad Bartell (Present)
Connie Fan (Absent)
Loren Helgason (Absent)
Jennifer Horn (Present)
Tony Kostreski (Present)
Craig McClure (Present)
Kelley Oklesson (Absent)
Connor Price (Absent)
Davis Walker (Absent)

Matt Sickle
Lan Hogue
Amanda Clerkin
Lesley Conroy

<u>TIME</u>		<u>REPORTER</u>
5:00	Call to Order & Introductions	Carla
5:05	Approval of Consent Agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none"> July 10 Minutes Membership Report Profit & Loss statement Investment Report <p><i>Matt makes motion to approve consent agenda. Tony seconds motion.</i></p> <p><i>Motion Carries.</i></p>	Carla
5:10	Advocacy Updates and Next Steps: Sales Tax <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report on meetings with Councilmembers, finding members to testify. <i>Our lobbyist will provide a written report to cover what's happened to date, our actions over the summer, as well as actions for the fall.</i> Fundraising and funding. <i>Carla reviewed the expenses to date, as well as the contributions received. Lesley thanked those on the call who have contributed, especially those whose firms have made large contributions. Carla calls for 100% participation by ExComm.</i> <p><i>Matt makes motion to commit up to \$23,400 to complete the lobbying work by the end of November, less any new contributions. Jennifer seconds motion.</i></p> <p><i>Dan calls for a roll call vote. Jules calls the role.</i></p> <p><i>Motion carries unanimously with no abstentions.</i></p> <p><i>Dan makes motion to pause the \$1,000 monthly investment contribution until at least the November ExComm meeting.</i></p> <p><i>Matt seconds motion.</i></p> <p><i>Motion carries.</i></p> <p><i>Dan makes motion stop July contribution to investment account.</i></p> <p><i>Matt seconds motion.</i></p> <p><i>Motion carries.</i></p>	Lesley Carla
5:40	Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> July webinars well attended BLOOM/DC Water Tour: 9/28, 11:30am-1pm Sparks at Play/Play Tour: 10/5, 9:30am-2:30pm 2023-24 Ballot & Survey out 	Susan

5:50	2024 Conference Volunteer Update	Matt
6:00	Exec. Director Search Update <i>The Search Committee has narrowed the list of candidates to 4 or 5 and has begun interviewing. The goal is to have a recommendation for the 9/18 ExComm meeting.</i>	Matt
6:10	Other Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chapter Pres. Reimbursement for Fellows Dinner in MN + one extra night's hotel <p><i>Dan makes motion to reimburse chapter president for Fellows Dinner ticket in MN and one extra night's hotel.</i></p> <p><i>Jules seconds motion.</i></p> <p><i>Motion carries.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Symposium with AIA DC: Oct. 19-20; registration is open and early-bird ends 9/5. Educational Outreach report: Jennifer reported on continuing discussions with the Phelps School and announced that she has put together a list of members of color who are interested in volunteering at schools. Park(ing) Day: Chapter participation? None. ASLA Honors & POASLA Lifetime Achievement Award decisions (Executive Session, if needed) Lifetime Achievement Award: ExComm agrees to move up the timing for the process of identifying prospective nominees for the award to the fall. The Nominating Committee will submit their recommendation to ExComm later this fall. <p><u><i>Executive Session (ExComm moved to Exec. Session)</i></u></p>	Carla Kal Jennifer Susan Susan All
7:00	Adjournment <i>Dan makes motion to adjourn.</i> <i>Jules seconds motion.</i> <i>Motion carries.</i>	All

Attachments:

- Advocacy campaign report
- Fundraising report

Upcoming Events

- 9/18: ExComm meeting (note that this is the 3rd Monday, not the 2nd)
- 9/28: DC Water Tour
- 10/5: Play Tour

DC Sales Tax Repeal Advocacy Status

**B25-0277 - Landscape Architect Services Sales
Tax Clarification Amendment Act of 2023**

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Current Status

- Meeting with Councilmembers during recess for bill to move ahead efficiently in Fall legislative session. Met with Gray and Frumin. Nadeau communicated her support and said meeting wasn't necessary.
- We currently have strong support from 6 of 13 CMs. CMs Allen, R. White, Frumin, and Nadeau are co-introducing. DC Council Chairman Mendelson supports the bill.
- Working to get hearing on bill in the Committee on Business and Economic Development (CM McDuffie, chairs) in late September or early October. We met with LD Justin Park in McDuffie's office in June.
- Created a list of POASLA members who agreed to testify during hearing. Ms. Jackson will hold a training session when we have a hearing date confirmed.
- Ms. Jackson will draft written testimony for other members to submit in support.

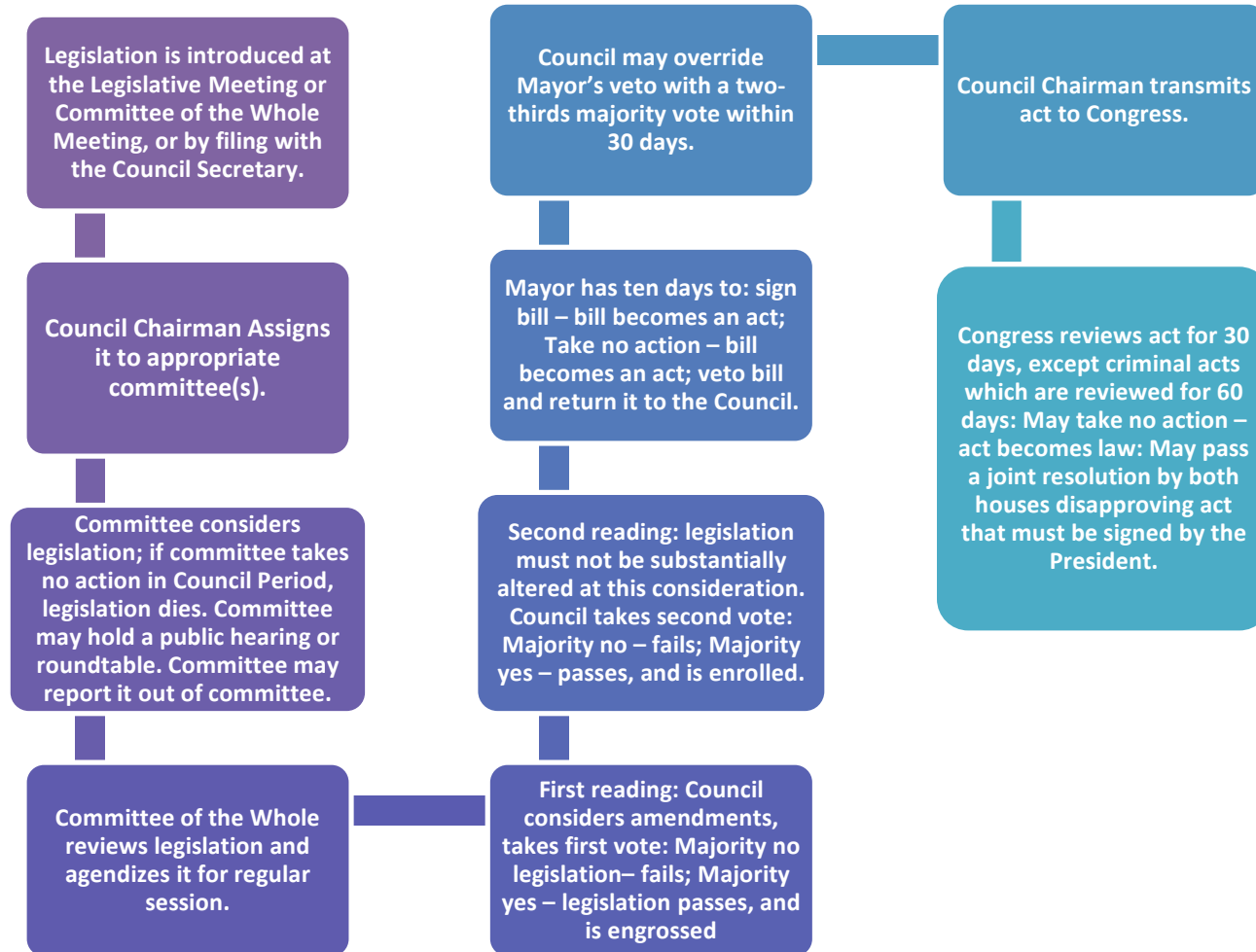
Timeline to date

- **December 12, 2022:** Advocacy kick-off at Chapter Celebration
- **January 3, 2023:** PO ASLA ExComm approves funding for lobbyist
- **January and February:** Committee worked with lobbyist to draft legislation
- **March 8, 2023:** Meeting with CM Allen
- **April 27, 2023:** Bill introduced
- **May and June:** Advocated for committee hearing
- **Summer:** Meet with councilmembers to advocate for committee hearing

Estimated Timeline moving forward

- **9/15:** Council of DC back in session
- **9/15 – first week in October:** Business and Economic Development Committee Hearing
- Bill sent to the Committee of the Whole
- **10/17:** First reading of the bill during council legislative session
- **11/7:** Second reading of the bill to Council
- Bill sent to the Mayor for approval
- Bill sent to Congress for final approval

The Legislative Process



Funding the final phase of sales tax repeal

Executive Committee Meeting

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Status report through August 10, 2023

Funding		Expenditures
Chapter allocation	\$50,438	\$55,100 (\$4,662 above Chapter allocation)
Contributions (after subtracting PayPal fees)	\$12,546	
Total	\$62,984	

Alternative methods for paying lobbying fees:

- \$7,800 monthly retainer, as provided in our current agreement
- \$1,100 hourly fee

Bottom line: If the lobbyist spends more than 7 hours on the campaign in a month, we save money by paying the monthly retainer.

Going forward

- Recommendation from Sales Tax Committee:
 - Request a discount on lobbying charges
 - Commit up to \$23,400 to complete the lobbying work by the end of October.
 - If post-October work is needed, convert to hourly rate and/or do some work without lobbyist
- For the Wells-Fargo account balance to remain consistent with Chapter policy, it should not be tapped to pay any additional lobbying costs that would bring the account balance below \$39,596
 - Balance, following payment of July lobbying costs: \$39,767
 - Minimum required balance, under Chapter policy: \$39,596
- A sensible approach
 - Use contributions to pay as many lobbying costs as possible
 - Pay the remainder from the Morgan-Stanley accounts
 - Balance as of 7/31/23: \$98,185.23
 - Balance will grow due to income generation
 - Begin with Morgan Stanley cash account