

Capitol Hill Historical Society Newsletter – January 3, 2017

Here's a look at what has been going on with the Capitol Hill Historical Society over the past month and a half. To summarize, we've mostly been promoting our plans through Capitol Hill Seattle Blog and interacting with those who have expressed interest in getting involved or keeping tabs on our progress. Otherwise, Rob, Devon, and I met in December to write up an agenda for our meeting on Saturday.

Meeting with Seattle Legacy Preservation Society at the Broadway High School Archives



Circa 1909. Image from University of Washington special collections.

For those of you who don't know, There used to be a High School at the current location of Seattle Central College. It closed after World War II and was mostly demolished in 1974 except for what became Broadway Performance Hall (center of image). And little did I know that within the performance hall lies the archives of the original Broadway High School (BHS).



The Broadway Alumni Association maintained it until their recent dissolution (not enough living members). Since then, a few local history enthusiasts, who call themselves the Seattle Legacy Preservation Society, inherited it. Then one of its members heard about CHHS and reached out to us to discuss their plans for it and how we can collaborate. Not only that, they were kind enough to invite Rob and me to meet with them and give us a tour. In the coming weeks they will announce all the details and we'll be sure to share them with you when they do. But generally speaking, using the BHS archives as a starting point, they will be sharing more stories about Seattle's past.



The BHS archives are a treasure. Now that the Broadway Alumni Association has dissolved we need to keep a close eye on the BHS archives and see how we can help to maintain it and share it. SLPS will be a great group to collaborate with as CHHS gets going!

Promotions

Many thanks to the [Association of King County Historical Organizations](#) (AKCHO) [Capitol Hill Community Council](#) (CHCC) and [Wedgwood Community Council](#) for promoting us! AKCHO provides "a meeting place of ideas and a forum for the issues that confront museums and heritage organizations." CHCC says it "shall serve the best interest of the Capitol Hill community by: Providing leadership in the investigation of community needs; Informing and communicating with agencies in an effort to protect and represent the interests of the community; and, working collaboratively with community stakeholders and other organizations." WCC, whose [purpose](#) isn't quite as concise, seems fairly similar to CHCC. Members from AKCHO and CHCC plan to attend our founders' meeting on Saturday.

In the news

Capitol Hill Seattle blog writer Elyse M. Lopez interviewed Rob and me for the following piece she wrote. And if you're wondering why our friend Devon didn't make it into this piece, it's probably because Rob and I just happen to be more active in the nuts and bolts of organizing whereas Devon has occasionally supported our efforts by bringing her unique perspective to conversation as time permits. Her career building efforts consume most of her time these days. However, I believe she will be at the founders' meeting, so anyone planning to attend will have a chance to get to know her better than!

[Capitol Hill Historical Society forms to preserve, find new stories of old Capitol Hill](#)



Me, Devon, and Rob meeting at Elliot Bay Books. Dec. 12, 2016

Founders' Meeting Agenda for January 7, 2017

At the Capitol Hill branch of the Seattle Public Library from 4-5:30pm

Overview: The times for each subject are mostly there to help us keep on task. They will probably vary a little. Having no formal system of governance for the group yet, it seems fitting to default to a collective vote on all matters discussed. Any subject we do not complete will be the responsibility of volunteers tasked to completing them after the meeting. The group will then discuss and vote on the results at our next meeting.

i. Introduction 4:05 - 4:15

I. Mission Statement 4:15 - 4:45

- What communities do we serve? Who is our audience? What voices do we represent? How do we represent them? Are we capable of representing them all?
- Identify at least three volunteers to collect our answers and polish them into a formal statement.

II. Incorporating as a nonprofit 4:45 - 5:05

- Types of nonprofits, requirements, 501(c)3 status, etc...
- High-level overview of methods of governance.
- Identify at least three volunteers (incorporators) who are willing to donate time, money, community connections and/or other resources to start-up efforts.
- Using the above defined mission, these incorporators will map out our organizational structure after the meeting.

III. 1-year timeline 5:05 - 5:35

- Determine what we intend to accomplish and when within the first year.
- This includes organizational status milestones, research/writing projects, outreach/partnerships, etc...
- Identify at least three volunteers who are willing to donate time and money (research and other costs) to completing discussed projects.

IV. Break-down / clean-up 5:35 - 5:45

Our first stories and one of Rob's latest

And now last but not least, Rob and I thought we ought to share our first stories, for any of you who aren't familiar with our work. And coincidentally, they are about the same intersection (Broadway and John), but nearly 4 years apart. Otherwise, since Rob wrote one story recently, I thought I'd add that too.

Rob's features his signature blended rephotograph combining elements of 1934 and 2011. And a fun fact: his son was just nine days old when this story was published!

Hidden Stories of Love at Broadway and John



My first originally ran under a more generic title on the Capitol Hill Times, but I have since updated it on my personal blog. I actually came across Rob's first story while doing research for mine. And when I saw his rephotograph my heart momentarily sank. For a second I thought he'd beaten me to it, but fate had other plans and it turns out we got to split this one both ways. We each had a different, but equally fascinating story to tell about the opposite sides of this intersection.

The Flemington Apartments: Best When Viewed Askew



Finally here's Rob's latest about the building on Broadway that currently houses Julia's.

The Julia's building past to present



That is all for now. We look forward to meeting many of you at the meeting on Saturday. I hope you all enjoyed the holidays!