ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM 401 F STREET NW SUITE 312 WASHINGTON, DC 20001-2728 202-504-2200 202-504-2195 FAX www.cfa.gov

#### MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

#### 18 March 2004

10:00 AM CONVENE, Suite 312, 401 F Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20001-2728

#### I. ADMINISTRATION

A. Approval of minutes: 19 February 2004

B. Dates of next meetings: 15 April 2004

20 May 2004 17 June 2004

- C. Report on the testimony given to the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on the District of Columbia regarding projects in Judiciary Square undergoing review by the Commission.
- D. Report on the FY 2004 National Capital Arts and Cultural Affairs Program.
- E. Confirmation of the approval of the last six bas-relief panels for the World War II Memorial.

#### II. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS

#### A. <u>National Park Service</u>

1. CFA 18/MAR/04- 1, American Veterans Disabled for Life Memorial. Square 580, Washington Avenue (Canal Street), 2nd and C Streets, SW. Concept. (Previous: CFA 20/SEP/01-2, site selection).

#### II. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS continued, 18 March 2004

- 2. CFA 18/MAR/04- 2, Lincoln Memorial. West Potomac Park at 23rd Street, NW. Rehabilitation of the lighting. Concept. (Previous: CFA 16/OCT/03-2).
- 3. CFA 18/MAR/04- 3, Washington Monument Grounds. 15th Street and Madison Drive. Temporary installation of food service trailers with a tent covering. Concept.

### B. <u>Federal Highway Administration and The John F. Kennedy Center</u> for the Performing Arts

CFA 18/MAR/04- 4, The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. New plaza deck with two new buildings, alterations to the existing terraces, and access improvements including reconfigured roadways. Revised concept. (Previous: CFA 20/FEB/03- 1).

### C. <u>Department of State</u>

CFA 18/MAR/04- 5, People's Republic of China. International Center, Lot 12 (consolidated Lots 11, 12 &13), Van Ness Street, NW. New chancery building. Final. (Previous: CFA 15/JAN/04-5).

# D. <u>District of Columbia Department of Consumer and Regulatory</u> Affairs

#### Shipstead-Luce Act

S.L. 04-042, 2555 M Street, NW. Chancery for the State of Qatar. Facade alterations for new chancery. Revised concept. (Last seen 19 February 2004).

#### E. The Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System

1. CFA 18/MAR/04- 6, Eccles Building, Constitution Avenue, between 20th and 21st Streets, NW. Perimeter security barriers and guard booths. Final. (Previous: CFA 16/OCT/03- 6).

#### II. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS continued, 18 March 2004

2. CFA 18/MAR/04- 7, Martin Building, C Street, between 20th and 21st Streets, NW. Perimeter security barriers and guard booths. Final. (Previous: CFA 16/OCT/03- 7).

#### F. District of Columbia Courts / General Services Administration

CFA 18/MAR/04- 8, District of Columbia Old Courthouse, Judiciary Square, between D and E streets, NW. Additions and renovation. Revised concept. (Previous: CFA 16/OCT/03- 4).

### G. <u>Department of Defense / Department of the Army</u>

CFA 18/MAR/04- 9, Walter Reed Army Medical Center. Main Section, West Service Road at North Road. Advanced Amputee Training Center and Interim Building. New buildings. Concept/Final.

#### H. Department of Defense / Department of the Navy

CFA 18/MAR/04- 10, Washington Navy Yard. Anacostia River waterfront. Perimeter security fence. Final. (Previous: CFA 19/FEB/04- 6).

### I. Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA)

CFA 18/MAR/04-11, WMATA Art Advisory Committee. L'Enfant Plaza Metrorail Station. Installation of two photographic murals. Concept/Final. WITHDRAWN

#### J. <u>Department of Agriculture</u>

1. CFA 18/MAR/04- 12, U.S. National Arboretum. New York Avenue and Bladensburg Road, NE. New vehicular entrance from Bladesburg Road, NE. Final. POSTPONED

- 2. CFA 18/MAR/04- 13, U.S. National Arboretum. New York Avenue and Bladensburg Road, NE.. Building 018--Headhouse and greenhouse. Renovation for use as office space and replacement greenhouses. Concept/Final. POSTPONED
- 3. CFA 18/MAR/04- 14, U.S. National Arboretum. New York Avenue and Bladensburg Road, NE. New perimeter security fence. Final. POSTPONED

### K. <u>General Services Administration</u>

- 1. CFA 18/MAR/04- 15, E. Barrett Prettyman U.S. Courthouse, Constitution Avenue and 3rd Street, NW. Perimeter security barriers. Final. (Previous: CFA 18/DEC/03- 2).
- 2. CFA 18/MAR/04- 16, Robert C. Weaver Federal Building, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Headquarters. 451 7th Street, SW. Modifications to sidewalks and perimeter walls for security barriers. Concept.

#### L. <u>Smithsonian Institution</u>

CFA 18/MAR/04- 17, National Museum of American History, Behring Center. 12th and Constitution Avenue, NW. Temporary modular building for the SI Early Enrichment Center. Concept/Final.

#### M. <u>District of Columbia Public Schools</u>

CFA 18/MAR/04- 18, Kramer Middle School. 1700 Q Street, SE. Renovations and site alterations. Concept.

### II. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS continued, 18 March 2004

N. <u>District of Columbia Office on Aging</u>

CFA 18/MAR/04- 19, Old Kennedy Theatre Wellness Center. 318-324 Kennedy Street, NW. Alterations and additions. Final. (Previous: CFA 15/JAN/04- 12).

- O. <u>District of Columbia Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs</u>
  - 1. Old Georgetown Act
    - a. Appendix I.
  - 2. <u>Shipstead-Luce Act</u>
    - a. Appendix II.

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29 March 2004

Dear Mr. Carlstrom:

During its meeting of 18 March, the Commission reviewed and approved the proposed concept for the American Veterans' Disabled for Life Memorial located at Washington Avenue, 2<sup>nd</sup> and C Streets. As the design process continues, all of the existing elements should be simplified and better integrated to create a more cohesive design. In addition, potential maintenance and physical access issues should be addressed with regard to the site and the proposed design.

The Commission looks forward to the further review of this project in the near future.

Sincerely,

Charles H. Atherton

Secretary

Terry Carlstrom Regional Director, National Capital Region National Park Service 1100 Ohio Drive, SW Washington, DC 20242

cc: Sally Blumenthal, National Park Service

Michael Vergason, Michael Vergason Landscape Architects

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29 March 2004

Dear Mr. Carlstrom:

During its meeting of 18 March, the Commission reviewed the concept design for the proposed new lighting scheme for the Lincoln Memorial. Based on the previous evening's demonstration of the new scheme, the members found the revised illumination to be a great improvement over the existing system. There were several recommendations made to fine tune the lighting levels to create a more even illumination of the entablature above the entrance colonnade, to lower the over-all brightness of the light on the sculpture of Lincoln, and to reduce the direct light on the flanking walls behind the sculpture.

With these adjustments, the Commission approved the concept submission and requests that the final plans be forwarded to the staff for our delegated final approval.

Sincerely,

Charles H. Atherton

Secretary

Terry R. Carlstrom Regional Director National Capital Region National Park Service 1100 Ohio Drive, SW Washington, DC 20242

cc: John G. Parsons, NPS

David Mintz, The Mintz Lighting Group

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29 March 2004

Dear Mr. Parsons:

During its meeting of 18 March, the Commission reviewed and approved the proposed concept for temporary food service trailers with a tent covering. The detailing of the tent structure should be carefully considered, while the material and color should match the existing tents located on the Ellipse. As a temporary installation, the structure should be in place for no more than two years. The Commission requests that the designers work with the staff during the continued development of the project. Construction documents should be submitted to the staff for final review.

The Commission looks forward to the review of future projects for the National Park Service.

Sincerely,

Charles H. Atherton

Secretary

John Parsons
Associate Regional Director
National Capital Region
National Park Service
1100 Ohio Drive, SW
Washington, DC 20242

cc: Steve Lorenzetti, National Park Service

Mary Oehrlein, Oehrlein and Associates Architects

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29 March 2004

Dear Mr. Kaiser:

During it meeting of 18 March, the Commission reviewed the joint submission from the Kennedy Center and the Federal Highway Administration for the revised concept design for the Kennedy Center's new plaza and expansion project, and the new roadway configuration for the portion of Interstate 66 that surrounds and isolates the Center from the city. Once again, the design by Architect Rafael Viñoly was found to be well thought out and thorough in scope. The revisions to the plan that have developed since it was presented last year have improved the project in many significant ways. The new opening in the extended terrace projecting over the river blank on the west side of the Center is very welcome in that it will prevent a tunnel-like feeling for those driving on the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway under the cantilevered west terrace. The changes to the east side terrace and plaza deck have only strengthened the concept and have addressed many functional needs as well as improving access. The modifications to the two buildings flanking the east terrace are also seen as improvements.

The reconfiguration of the highways, access roadways, and the new pedestrian paths and bicycle trails, as proposed by the Federal Highway Administration, will undoubtedly improve the ease of access for the Center's patrons and visitors, as well as for the general public traveling through the vicinity of the Center. We understand that there is much more work to be done on the design of the roads, bridges, and pathways, and the members hope that there is additional thought given to the pedestrian access from the north. Currently it is, and may well stay, the primary route in the future for those arriving on foot as it is the most direct path to the nearest Metro station. Every effort should be taken to make this approach as welcoming and inviting as possible and to avoid having a patron feel as though they arrived at the Center's "side door."

All together, the joint submission for the revised concept for the plaza and expansion, and for the proposed reconfiguration of the roadways, was unanimously approved by the Commission.

The members look forward to the continuing review of the project and to working with you, your design team and the Federal Highway Administration's team throughout the project. As always, the staff is available should there be questions.

Sincerely,

Charles H. Atherton

Secretary

Mr. Michael Kaiser President, The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts Washington, DC 20566-0001

cc: Rafael Viñoly, FAIA
Claudette Donlon, JFKCPA
Daniel Feil, JFKCPA
Melisa L. Ridenour, FHWA
Paul Nishimoto, FHWA
Gary Henderson, FHWA, DC Division

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29 March 2004

Dear Ms. Mavritte:

During its 18 March meeting, the Commission reviewed the final design, material samples and landscape plan for the proposed chancery building for the People's Republic of China to be located on Lot 12 in the International Center on Van Ness Street, NW. The members were happy to see the model that addressed previous concerns. As such, the design was found to be most appropriate for the International Center and for this most important member of our diplomatic community.

We look forward to the review of other modifications to the grounds of the International Center, particularly the proposed parking area in front of the Federal Building, which was not part of this final review, and a landscape master plan for the Center at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

Charles H. Atherton

Secretary

Ms. Donna Mavritte
Project Manger
Office of Real Property Management
International Chancery Center
United States Department of State
2201 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20520

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29 March 2004

Dear Ambassador Al-Dafa:

During its meeting of 18 March, the Commission reviewed and approved the proposed concept for facade alterations for a new chancery for the State of Qatar at 2555 M Street, NW (S.L. 04-042). The design is greatly improved since the additions have been more strongly integrated with the existing structure. As the project moves forward, the design of the canopies requires additional development as they appear rather diminutive in comparison with the bold entrance and stair tower. In addition, careful consideration of material for the horizontal banding through the glass addition will be important when detailing the front facade.

The Commission requests that the architects continue to work with staff as the design develops to insure smooth progress in the review process and looks forward to further review of this important project in the near future.

Sincerely,

Charles H. Atherton

Secretary

His Excellency Bader Omar Al-Dafa Ambassador to the State of Qatar Embassy of the State of Qatar 4200 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, Suite 200 Washington, DC 20016

cc: Barbara A. Mullenex, OPX Architects Richard Ray Ruhlman, Leo A. Daly

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29 March 2004

Dear Ms. Parikh:

During its meeting of 18 March, the Commission reviewed the final plans for the perimeter security barriers, guard booths and landscape alterations for the Eccles and Martin buildings. The members approved the plans for both buildings with the exception of the design of the small guard booths to be located on the north side of the Martin building. It was felt that the materials used to sheath these booths should not be the same as the existing garage entry pavilion and that perhaps the design should be more complementary to the materials of the Martin building.

The Commission has in the recent past reviewed several guard booth designs that may be useful to study in developing an alternate design. The members asked that you and the design team work with our staff as a new design is developed. The alternative design can be submitted to the staff for the Commission's delegated final approval. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Charles H. Atherton

Secretary

Ms. Sonal Shah Parikh Project Manager Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System 20th and C Streets, NW, MS 131 Washington, DC 20551

cc: Rick Elliott, Federal Reserve System James van Sweden, OvS

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29 March 2004

Dear Mr. McGill:

During its meeting of 18 March, the Commission reviewed and approved the revised concept for additions and renovations to the District of Columbia Old Courthouse, on Judiciary Square between D and E Streets. Although the Commission felt that the design was respectful of the existing structure with regard to height and width, a decrease in the depth of the addition should be investigated in an effort to provide a larger landing between the stairs and new entrance. The design for the open space north of the entrance stairs, including the proposed slope of 3.7 percent, is reasonable and acceptable. A large-scale model of the entrance pavilion with its surrounding spaces should be submitted with the next submission, to help determine the appropriate configuration of the pavilion and its relationship to the plaza.

The Commission looks forward to further review of this project in the near future.

Sincerely,

Charles H. Atherton

Secretary

Michael McGill Special Assistant for Regional Coordination General Services Administration 301 7<sup>th</sup> Street, SW Washington, DC 20407-0001

cc: John Belle, Beyer Blinder Belle Hany Hassan, Beyer Blinder Belle Judge Wagner, DC Court of Appeals

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29 March 2004

Dear Mr. D'Amico:

During its meeting of 18 March, the Commission reviewed and approved the proposed concept for the Advance Amputee Training Center and interim building, located at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. The Commission requests that the designers work with the staff during the continued development of the project and have delegated final review to the staff.

The Commission looks forward to the review of future projects for Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

Sincerely,

Charles H. Atherton

Secretary

Michael A. D'Amico Director, Public Works & Transportation Department of the Army Walter Reed Army Medical Center Washington, DC 20307-5001

cc:

Donald Parker, Walter Reed Army Medical Center William Hendrix, Smith Group

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29 March 2004

Dear Mr. Earle:

During its meeting of 18 March 2004, the Commission reviewed the final design for the proposed perimeter security fence along the Anacostia River waterfront at the Washington Navy Yard. We appreciate the opportunity given us to visit the Washington Navy Yard on the morning of 19 February.

As the length of the fence is daunting, the brick piers and pedestrian entrances do not offer not enough variety to reduce the visual impact and hold the design together. The members suggested that removing the brick piers would improve the appearance of the fence since the piers were not well designed. A simpler metal fence without piers, but with additional landscaping, would be preferable.

The members were disappointed that previous recommendations to consider larger open spaces had not been explored. If properly designed, these open spaces would not diminish security needs or potential use of the space by the Navy Yard, and they would greatly benefit the pedestrian experience of the waterfront. Because these recommendations were not considered, the final design did not receive an enthusiastic reception. With these recommendations the design was approved with reservations.

The Commission looks forward to review of additional installations throughout the capital city at an early stage of design to consider the options available to the Navy to meet security requirements.

Sincerely,

Charles H. Atherton

Secretary

Mr. Lawrence P. Earle Department of the Navy Engineering Field Activity Chesapeake 1314 Harwood Street, SE Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374-5018

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29 March 2004

Dear Mr. McGill:

During its meeting of 18 March, the Commission approved the submission for the perimeter security barriers for the E. Barrett Prettyman U.S. Courthouse, Constitution Avenue and 3rd Street, NW. The previously presented configuration, employing a curved line of bollards encircling the building's rotunda on the south, was the scheme approved. The variations that featured a solid barrier wall at this location were thought to be too enclosing and fortified in appearance. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Charles H. Atherton

Secretary

Michael McGill Special Assistant for Regional Coordination General Services Administration 301 7<sup>th</sup> Street, SW Washington, DC 20407-0001

cc: Michael Crakel, Graves/Smith Group

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29 March 2004

Dear Mr. McGill:

During its meeting of 18 March, the Commission reviewed and approved the proposed concept for modifications to sidewalks and perimeter walls for security barriers to the Robert C. Weaver Federal Building, Department of Housing and Urban Development Headquarters, located at 451 7<sup>th</sup> Street, SW. The Commission encourages the extension of the original walls, at the lowest possible height to provide additional security.

The Commission looks forward to further review of this project in the near future.

Sincerely,

Charles H. Atherton

Secretary

Michael McGill
Special Assistant for Regional Coordination
General Services Administration
301 7<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20407-0001

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29 March 2004

Dear Mr. Rombach:

During its meeting of 18 March 2004, the Commission reviewed the proposed temporary modular building for the Smithsonian Early Enrichment Center (SEEC) to be located on the grounds at the east end of the National Museum of American History. Understanding that the SEEC will eventually be relocated in the National Museum of Natural History, the installation of the temporary modular building was approved with reservations.

The chosen site offers the advantage of a drop in level to screen views of the concrete building from the Mall. Additional landscaping will help screen it at ground level. However, the members felt its design to be rather harsh. They expressed concern about the impact on the children who will use this facility for the next three to five years. On that note, five years may be too long for a temporary structure. The Commission prefers that the life of the building be moved closer to the three year deadline.

Sincerely,

Charles H. Atherton

Secretary

Harry Rombach, R.A.
Associate Director for Facilities Master Planning Smithsonian Institution
Office of Facilities
750 9<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, Suite 5200
Washington, DC 20013-7012

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29 March 2004

Dear Mr. Coleman:

During its meeting of 18 March, the Commission reviewed and approved the proposed concept for renovation and site alterations to Kramer Middle School, located at 1700 Q Street, SE The Commission is supportive of the re-use of the existing structure and encourages the timely removal of the existing maintenance facility to provide additional play areas for the students. However, every effort should be made to provide additional parking at the rear of the building, rather than at the prominent corner of Q and 18<sup>th</sup> Streets. If a reduced number of spaces must occur in this location, additional landscaping should be provided to screen the parking as much as possible.

The Commission looks forward to further review of this project in the near future.

Sincerely,

Charles H. Atherton

Secretary

Mr. Lucian Coleman Interim Deputy Director for Planning, Design District of Columbia Public Schools 1709 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, NE, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Washington, DC 20002

cc: Erika Lehman, Grimm + Parker Architects

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29 March 2004

Dear Ms. Pace:

During it meeting of 18 March, the Commission reviewed the final plans for the new Ward 4, Old Kennedy Theatre Senior Wellness Center, 318-324 Kennedy Street, NW, for the District of Columbia's Office of Aging. The members requested three changes be made in selection of materials for the building. The sample of yellow-bronze metal that was proposed for the window frames was thought to be too bright in color and not in keeping with the historic character of the existing buildings. The color of the window frames should match the darker bronze-colored metal trim used elsewhere on the building. For the window glass, the members recommended the use of clear glass instead of the darkly tinted glass presented. Clear glass would permit more light to enter the building and allow the building to appear more lively from the street. The third change requested was for the new rear walls of the building not to be sheathed in the light-colored split-faced masonry units presented. Brick should be used instead so that the new walls better complement the preserved brick walls of the historic buildings.

The staff will be able to review the revised drawings that reflect these requested changes and with the submission of the revised drawings, the project can be considered approved.

Once again, the members expressed appreciation for the efforts of the Office of Aging to bring life back into these structures and acknowledged that this project will provide a welcome amenity for the senior members of the Ward 4 community. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Charles H. Atherton

Secretary

Dr. E. Veronica Pace
Executive Director
Office of Aging
Government of the District of Columbia
441 Fourth Street, NW, Suite 900S
Washington, DC 20001

cc Bijoy Isaac, DC Office of Property Management Louis Fry III, AIA Charles Bryant, FAIA