October 26, 2021

Senator Ty Masterson, Chairperson
Legislative Coordinating Council
332-E State Capitol

Dear Chairperson Masterson:

On October 12 the Capitol Preservation Committee met to discuss several requests to place artwork or memorials in the Capitol or on the grounds of the Capitol. The committee voted to create two subcommittees.

1. To work with the league of Women Voters Kansas and the American Association of University Women of Kansas to outline a process for developing a sculpture for the Capitol that commemorates the passage of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, providing the right to vote for women. This project would be paid for with private funds and will focus on Kansas women.

2. To develop a plan to bring closure to the Ad Astra project’s unfinished fundraising plaza on the Capitol grounds. Originally this was developed to raise funds for the Ad Astra statue on the top of the dome. Since the statue is installed, the committee felt it was time to discuss ways to work with the family of the artist to resolve the issues connected to the fundraising plaza.

The subcommittees would like to complete their work in the next few months and take their recommendations back to the Capitol Preservation Committee as a whole. This way the committee can make recommendations to the legislature in accordance with K.S.A. 75-2269.

On behalf of the Capitol Preservation Committee, I would like to request authorization for one additional meeting day during the 2022 legislative session, and two subcommittee meetings prior to the start of the session. According to KSA 75-2269, the Capitol Preservation Committee can meet up to four times a year.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jennie Chinn
Capitol Preservation Committee, Chair
Executive Director, Kansas Historical Society