

March 12, 2025  
State Building Naming Committee  
**Meeting Minutes**

**Members Present**

Emily Kisicki, Deputy Commissioner for Buildings and General Services

Xusana Davis, State Racial and Equity Officer

Catherine Delneo, State Librarian

Laura V. Trieschmann, State Historic Preservation Officer

Stephen Perkins, Vermont Historical Society

Jessica Vintinner, Agency of Commerce and Community Development Designee

**Other Staff Present**

Lindsay Pacheco, Administrative Services Coordinator for VDHP

**Meeting Called to Order by Laura V. Trieschmann at 9:07am.**

**Member Introductions**

**Selection of Chair**

Jessica Vintinner made a motion to nominate and elect Emily Kisicki (BGS) as new chair of committee. Catherine Delneo seconded the motion. All in favor, motion passed.

**Status Update**

Bill to establish moratorium on naming state buildings was introduced during legislative sessions and there has been some discussion to move this report forward. BGS Commissioner Minoli supports this moratorium, and group opened discussion on critiques and support of moratorium bill.

Xusana Davis was in agreement with moratorium, and offered change in language for this being a permanent decision rather than a moratorium. Does not believe any branches of state government should take over this responsibility. If so, there should be meaningful community involvement in the naming process.

Catherine Delneo was in agreement with moratorium, there is more important work to be done at this time and naming buildings is a distraction, as well as costly to VT taxpayers. It is not worth it to name buildings that already have an address. Emily Kisicki agreed that using a building's existing address is safer and less confusing.

Laura Trieschmann was in agreement with moratorium, and does not have the staff to take on naming duties. Commented that current political climate is too divisive, and this is not the time to be naming/renaming.

Stephen Perkins was in agreement with moratorium and supports committee decision. Echoed that this will always be a political decision.

Group discussed potential for naming interior spaces, which is already done in many state buildings but is not as publicized. Came to conclusion that this is also distracting and not a priority – buildings change owners, can be damaged, and exterior/interior space names will change or become defunct accordingly.

Jessica Vintinner was in agreement with moratorium, and that this issue is too political. Agrees that it seems unfair to put this responsibility on state employees and agencies when legislators are elected for this. Noted that the legislative charge is to create a system for naming, and supporting the moratorium may not fulfil this.

Stephen Perkins suggested that the group recommends other naming avenues in lieu of creating a system. This would mean no more naming state buildings and leaving already named buildings as is, but the public could still pursue namings for local and municipal spaces.

Xusana Davis commented that while she is in agreement with Stephen's suggestion, leaving buildings with "legacy names" excludes folks who were left out of the conversation. Curious whether this discussion could come back to group again.

Catherine Delneo commented that while it is highly unlikely that existing names could be removed from buildings, the group could flag in their report that these things were discussed but the legislature needs to decide how to move forward.

General consensus from group is that there should be no more naming of buildings, and they will support an indefinite moratorium. Committee will put forth language and individual members will comment on a draft report created by Jessica Vintinner. Complete report to be submitted by April 1, 2025.

**Meeting adjourned at 10:00 AM.**