Sunday

Friends gathered for a renovation project Groundbreaking Ceremony.

We were joined by (right to left) Monarc Construction Project manager Tri-Minh Phan, project design architect Evan Lippincott, principal architect Richard Wieboldt, Monarc Project Supervisor Steve Lail, and assorted casual labor.

Monday

This day is the start date on our project schedule. At this point, we cannot provide a Notice to Proceed to start the project clock, since the contract is still under review and there are still some permit issues with respect to DC water connections.

This puts us in what NASA countdowns call “T minus 1 and holding”, so all project dates will slip one day at a time until these issues are resolved.

The permit holdup involves the question of whether DC Water will consider our new sprinkler system connection so burdensome that they will want us to pay for digging up Decatur Place and replacing a section of the ancient city water main.

We will get the results of a needed hydrant flow test in three weeks, but hope to find a way forward before that.

Tuesday

Work continues on the Assembly Room HVAC upgrade.

Another shiny new furnace joins the pack:
**Wednesday**

Civil Engineers hope to submit site plan updates this week to address remaining DC Water and DOEE concerns.

**Thursday**

Now that we have sufficient detail on retaining wall design, Monarc is working on getting pricing to remove the largest remaining cost uncertainty.

**Friday**

Checking to make sure that the contract payment procedures are compatible with the bank loan payment procedures.

**Looking Ahead**

We will be having our official OAC (Owners/Architects/Construction) kickoff meeting on March 14th and should have a clearer sense of way forward after that.

**Errata**

At the celebration on Sunday, a Friend watched the project video and noticed that it is vague on the subject of exactly where the former “I Street Meeting” stood for more than a century.

He went up to our wonderful Library and tracked the address down on page 209 of the Hopewell Friends History. It was at 1811 I Street.

More specifically:

That location is, of course, now a Starbucks.