

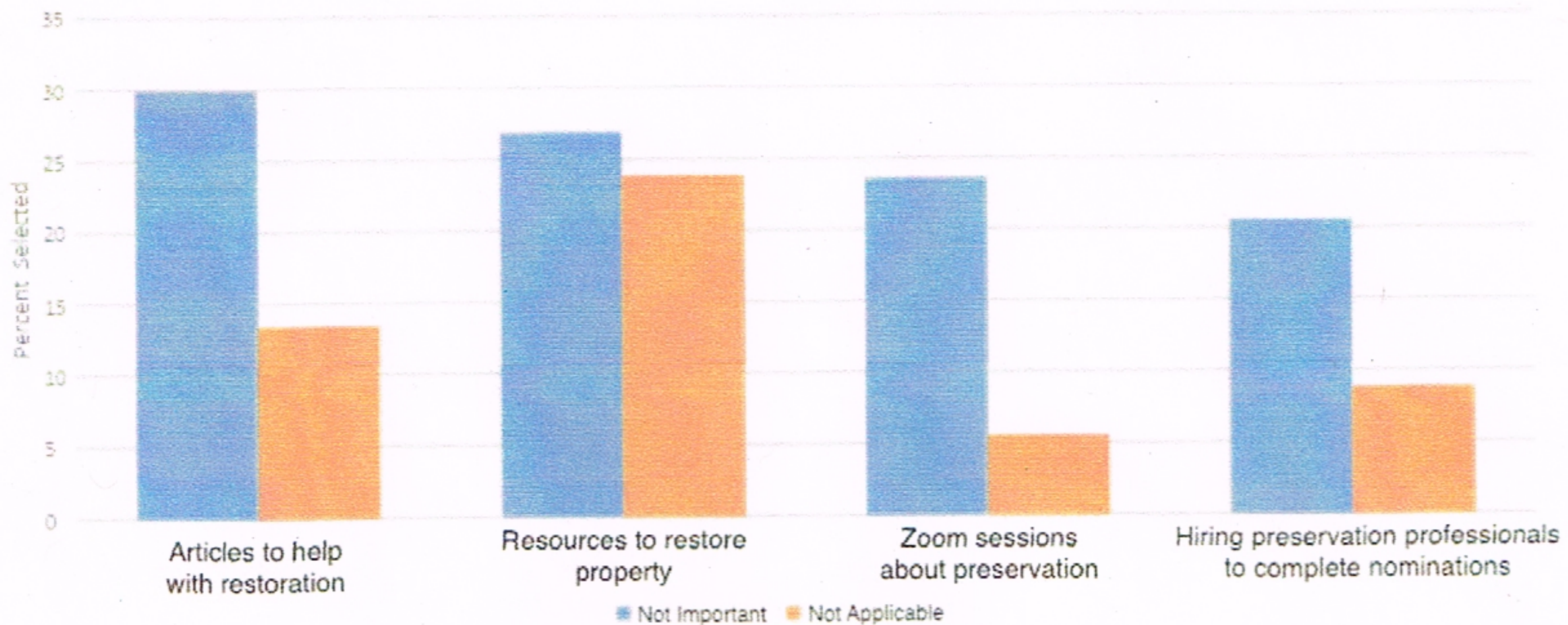
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Beginning in July, CCRA will have a new president, officers, and some new board members, several of whom have interests and backgrounds in historic preservation. Reach out to the new president and officers if you would like a role in CCRA's efforts to ensure our neighborhood quality of life.

As one member stated on the survey: "Lest we old-timers forget,

and newer residents learn, CCRA was founded to preserve and protect The Historic Rittenhouse Neighborhood. The founding of this mission has expanded and now includes a larger area. Just think what the area would be like now if people had not come together over 60 years ago and let their voices be heard. I am a 63-year resident of the Square and hope to spend a few more years here enjoying what has been preserved."

## Activities Selected As Not Important or Not Applicable



### Our Greene Countrie Towne

## Climate Crisis Solutions: We Can Do It

By Bonnie Eisenfeld

What will it take to get to zero emissions by 2050? According to *The Guardian*, a U.K. newspaper that covers the worldwide climate crisis extensively, we need to power homes and vehicles with electricity, and we need to substitute fossil fuels with solar and wind energy to produce electricity. In order to eliminate existing atmospheric carbon, we need to scale up carbon capture and trapping technologies. ("The race to zero: can America reach net-zero emissions by 2050?" *The Guardian*, March 15, 2021.)

On April 27, the *Washington Post* reported on a new scientific study that claimed, "Moving quickly to cut emissions of methane, a potent greenhouse gas produced by everything from livestock farming to fossil fuel extraction, could slow the rate of the Earth's warming as much as 30 percent.... Carbon dioxide is far more abundant in the Earth's atmosphere and can linger for hundreds of years, while methane typically breaks down after about a decade. But in the short term, methane is far more effective at trapping heat — roughly 80 times more potent than carbon dioxide."

Findings from new research studies are reported daily, such as how carbon dioxide is released into the ocean by bottom trawling, the practice of dragging enormous nets along the ocean floor. According to a new study, "conserving some marine areas would not only safeguard imperiled species but sequester vast amounts of planet-warming carbon dioxide." ("Trawling for Fish May Unleash as Much Carbon as Air Travel, Study Says," *New York Times*, March 17, 2021.)

Players on the zero-emissions team now include Wall Street investors, bankers, and CEOs of companies. "A steadily growing trend in investment went fully mainstream in 2020 as a record number of corporations pledged to go 'net zero' and move to cancel out the carbon emissions they produce to halt a catastrophic rise in global temperatures." ("Reading the writing on the wall': why Wall Street is acting on the climate crisis," *The Guardian*, March 16, 2021.)

These new players join the existing team of federal, state, and local governments; builders and developers; insurers; mortgage bankers; utilities; growers; engineers; technicians; and international organizations. Technical breakthroughs such as scalable carbon scrubbers, bladeless wind turbines ("skybrators"), and microwave-powered home boilers are in the works.

Demographic changes, including population decreases and migrations, are predicted: for example, some parts of the planet, such as Russia, Canada, and Northern Europe, will become warmer, thereby attracting population. Changes in food production are predicted: for example, researchers have reported that feeding seaweed to beef cattle will lessen methane gas emissions.

These are just a few of the many improvements that are needed and already in the works. By the time this issue of the *Quarterly* appears in your inbox, a host of new discoveries and innovations will have been reported in the media. I believe our big brains can solve this problem. Will changemakers win over inertia? I fervently hope so. Be the change.