

**MINUTES**  
**WAR MEMORIAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING**

**Thursday, June 9, 2005**

The Board of Trustees of the War Memorial of San Francisco met in regular session at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 9, 2005, in the Trustees' Board Room, War Memorial Opera House, President Bashford presiding.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: President Bashford, Vice President Horn, Trustee Bechtle, Trustee Farrow, Trustee Jarman, Trustee Pelosi, Trustee Reynolds, Trustee Tsakopoulos-Kounalakis;

Absent: Trustee Haas, Trustee Moscone, and Trustee Shultz.

Staff Present: Elizabeth Murray, Managing Director  
Gregory P. Ridenour, Assistant Managing Director/Executive Secretary

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

President Bashford called for approval of the minutes of the May 12, 2005 regular meeting of the Board. On motion of Trustee Bechtle, seconded by Trustee Farrow, the minutes were unanimously approved.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**Trustee Appointments:** President Bashford introduced and welcomed Paul F. Pelosi, who was recently appointed to the War Memorial Board of Trustees by Mayor Gavin Newsom. He stated that Trustee Pelosi was sworn-in by Mayor Newsom on May 24, 2005, together with six Trustees reappointed by the Mayor to serve additional four-year terms on the Board, including Trustees Bashford, Bechtle, Farrow, Jarman, Moscone and Shultz. President Bashford extended congratulations to Trustees on their appointments.

President Bashford reported that pursuant to a provision of the City's Charter, Supervisor Chris Daly has requested a hearing before the Rules Committee of the Board of Supervisors to review the Mayor's seven appointments to the War Memorial Board of Trustees. He stated that this hearing has been calendared for the Rules Committee meeting on Wednesday, June 15, 2005, at 10:00 a.m., in the Supervisors' committee meeting room #263 in City Hall. President Bashford stated his understanding that Supervisor Daly is interested in several issues falling within the jurisdiction of the War Memorial Board of Trustees, including seismic improvement needs of the Veterans Building and the role of veterans in the War Memorial complex. He said that Trustees are asked to appear before the Rules Committee to respond to any questions of Supervisor Daly and other committee members. President Bashford stated that this hearing will also provide an opportunity for Trustees to inform Supervisors of issues and challenges facing the War Memorial Board of Trustees in working to fulfill our mission and goals of protecting these important public facilities which have been entrusted to our care.

**Symphony/Opera Seasons:** President Bashford stated that the San Francisco Symphony will conclude its 2004-05 Repertory Season on Saturday, June 18, and then move directly into its June Festival Season entitled *Of Thee I Sing*, from June 23 to July 1, 2005. President Bashford also noted that the San Francisco Symphony will present its bi-annual *Black and White Ball*, on Saturday, June 11, 2005 in the Civic Center area, and anticipates that up to 10,000 people will attend and participate in Ball festivities.

President Bashford stated that the San Francisco Opera will open the summer portion of its 2004-05 season this coming Sunday, June 12, 2005, and will present 20 performances through July 10, 2005. President Bashford extended best wishes to the Symphony and Opera for their continuing season activities.

### MANAGING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

**Rental Requests:** Ms. Murray reported that rental requests as mailed to Trustees are routine, and she requested their approval. On motion of Trustee Bechtle, seconded by Trustee Farrow, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

#### RESOLUTION NO. 05-19

RESOLVED, By the Board of Trustees of the War Memorial of San Francisco that the following rental requests are hereby approved:

#### LOUISE M. DAVIES SYMPHONY HALL

Iyengar Yoga Association of United States Celebration of BKS IYENGAR	October 3, 2005	\$2,000.00 vs. 10% \$4,000.00 maximum
Bill Graham Presents Rufus Wainwright with Ben Lee and Ben Folds	August 23, 2005	\$2,000.00 vs. 10% \$5,500.00 maximum

#### HERBST THEATRE

City Arts and Lectures, Inc. Cultural Studies	September 19, 21, 27, 28, 2005 October 17, 2005 November 8, 10, 14, 16, 2005	\$5,400.00
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**Additional Rental Requests:** Ms. Murray requested approval of additional rental requests as submitted. On motion of Trustee Farrow, seconded by Trustee Bechtle, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

#### RESOLUTION NO. 05-20

RESOLVED, By the Board of Trustees of the War Memorial of San Francisco that the following rental requests are hereby approved:

#### DAVIES SYMPHONY HALL

Patina Catering Wedding and Reception in Lobby	October 9, 2005	\$1,100.00 + catering %
SF Jazz Barbara Cook – Tribute to America Popular Song	November 4, 2005	\$2,000.00 vs. 10% \$4,000.00 maximum

#### HERBST THEATRE

Theatreworks, USA 2005-06 Season	November 28, 2005 February 22, 2006 March 31, 2006 April 3, 2006 May 8, 2006	\$2,250.00
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American Chinese Cultural Exchange Center 2005 Henan Culture Festival in San Francisco	July 22, 2005	\$600.00
Gay Asian Pacific Alliance Runway 17 – 2005 Gay Asian Pacific Man and Miss GAPA Pageant	August 13, 2005	\$600.00
Bread and Roses Celebration Concert	March 30, 2006	\$600.00
Extreme Tango Polly Ferman – From Stavinsky to Piazzolla – Habaneras, Milongas and Tangos	July 23, 2005	\$1,050.00
SF Jazz Fall 2005 Season	October 19, 23, 27-30, 2005 November 2-6, 2005	\$6,450.00

**Fiscal Year 2005-06 Budget Update:** Ms. Murray stated that, in accordance with the City Charter, the Mayor submitted his FY 2005-06 budget plan to the Board of Supervisors on June 1, 2005. The Board of Supervisors will now conduct a two-month review of the Mayor's budget, with final approval of the FY 2005-06 City Budget to occur no later than July 29, 2005. Ms. Murray said that the Supervisors' Budget and Finance Committee will begin budget hearings next week; each City department will appear before the Committee first for an initial departmental budget presentation, and then again for the Committee's final consideration of the department budget.

Ms. Murray noted that at the May meeting of the Board, she reported that the 2005-06 budget approved by the Trustees and submitted to the Mayor in February 2005, included operating and capital expenditures totaling \$11.58 million. This expenditure budget was supported by hotel tax and earned revenues totaling \$11.4 million, and use of \$169,000 from the unappropriated balance in the War Memorial Special Fund to cover the projected revenue shortfall. In her report to the Board at the May meeting, she stated that the net effect of changes made by the Mayor's Budget Office through May 12, 2005, was an increase in the bottom-line revenue shortfall from \$169,000 to \$970,000, primarily due to the Mayor's plan to freeze the War Memorial's 2005-06 hotel tax allocation at the current-year level (a reduction of \$840,700 from hotel tax revenue included in the War Memorial's budget request), and the Mayor's eliminating 2005-06 occupancy fees of \$138,139 to be paid to the War Memorial by the Law Library and Mayor's Office on Disability for their use office space in the Veterans Building.

Ms. Murray stated that in further budget meetings, and in view of the hotel tax and interdepartmental revenue reductions being imposed on the War Memorial, the Mayor's Budget Office agreed to eliminate a total of \$375,000 in overhead charges from our 2005-06 budget, thus reducing the FY 2005-06 revenue shortfall to \$595,000. Ms. Murray distributed a revised budget update showing the War Memorial's FY 2005-06 budget as approved by the Mayor, which includes use of the entire unappropriated balance in the War Memorial Special Fund to cover the revenue shortfall of \$595,000.

**Hotel Tax Allocations/Arts Task Force:** Ms. Murray reported that earlier this year, and subsequent to a court ruling in late 2004 regarding the City's parking tax, the City Attorney advised the Mayor and Board of Supervisors that certain allocations of the City's hotel tax as specified in the Municipal Code might be subject to similar court challenge. She stated that while no action has as yet been taken to address this concern, this matter is expected to be revisited in the near future, and may include discussion and consideration of legislation to amend the current hotel tax ordinance.

Ms. Murray stated that the Arts Task Force, created by the Board of Supervisors earlier this year and on which she sits as a non-voting member, is aware of current concerns regarding the hotel tax ordinance, as revenues from hotel tax allocations represent a primary funding source for City arts departments and grants to arts organizations. She said that the charge of the Arts Task Force is to publicly discuss, investigate and make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors and Mayor whether and how to update or restructure the various elements of the City's agencies, programs and policies concerning the arts in San Francisco to better achieve the goals of sustaining and stabilizing community-based non-for-profit arts organizations, building upon the existing arts economy, and

expanding City resources for affordable housing and workspaces to help retain artists in San Francisco. Ms. Murray stated that the Arts Task Force plans to have further discussion and consideration of the structure and allocations of the City's hotel tax as it relates to the goals of the Task Force prior to submitting its findings and recommendations to the Board of Supervisors in August 2005.

### **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

**Revenue, Appropriations and Status of Building Projects Reports for May 2005:** Mr. Ridenour referred to the Revenue, Appropriations, and Status of Building Projects Reports for May 2005, and requested a resolution to approve housekeeping expenditures as submitted. On motion of Trustee Farrow, seconded by Trustee Pelosi, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 05-21**

RESOLVED, By the Board of Trustees of the War Memorial of San Francisco that Purchase Order Nos. WM050431 through WM050464, Interdepartmental Work Order No. WNW05IPO003, and Revenue Transfer Nos. EN05XXXX, EN051077, EN051078, and EN050814 are hereby approved.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Jahahara Amen-RA Alkebulan-Ma'at addressed and submitted a statement to the Trustees on behalf of a growing number of organizations and residents of San Francisco and the Bay Area, proposing to change the name of the 'War Memorial and Performing Arts Center' to 'Justice, Democracy and Peace Memorial' or another appropriate name to honor the civilians, soldiers and veterans of past and present wars in a more profound way. Mr. Alkebulan-Ma'at further requested that the Board of Trustees support the development of a special monument commemorating the United Nation's founding in San Francisco, outside the Veterans Building at Van Ness Avenue and McAllister Street.

President Bashford thanked Mr. Alkebulan-Ma'at for his statement, and referred this matter to the Board's Building Committee for consideration and recommendation.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, President Bashford adjourned the meeting at 3:00pm.

Gregory P. Ridenour  
Executive Secretary