MINUTES
WAR MEMORIAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Thursday, June 13, 2019

The Board of Trustees of the War Memorial of San Francisco met in regular session at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 13, 2019, in the Trustees’ Board Room, War Memorial Opera House, President Bechtle presiding.

ROLL CALL

Present: President Bechtle, Trustee Davis, Trustee Gatti, Trustee Horn, Trustee Levin, Trustee Lui, Trustee Moscone, Trustee Myatt, Trustee Shultz and Trustee Wilsey

Absent: Trustee Pelosi

Staff Present: Elizabeth Murray, Managing Director and Jennifer Norris, Assistant Managing Director

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

President Bechtle called for approval of the minutes of the May 9, 2019 Selection Committee meeting. On motion of Trustee Wilsey and seconded by Trustee Moscone, the minutes were unanimously approved.

President Bechtle called for approval of the minutes of the May 9, 2019 regular meeting of the Board. On motion of Trustee Shultz and seconded by Trustee Lui, the minutes were unanimously approved.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Trustee Appointment and Reappointments: President Bechtle said she is pleased to introduce a new member of the War Memorial Board of Trustees, Stanlee Ray Gatti, who was appointed by Mayor Breed on May 10 and sworn in on June 11. She stated that since relocating to San Francisco 40 years ago, Stanlee has changed the way San Francisco designs and plans events. Stanlee has been involved in many events at the Performing Arts Center, always creating a new and special aesthetic experience. President Bechtle said that Stanlee Gatti brings a wealth of talent and experience to the Board of Trustees and we heartily welcome him as a fellow trustee.

President Bechtle also reported on Mayor Breed’s reappointments of Trustees Davis, Horn and Myatt to additional four-year Trustee terms through January 2, 2023. A swearing-in ceremony was conducted immediately before today’s meeting confirming these reappointments. President Bechtle said that on behalf of the Board, she would like to extend congratulations to Trustees Davis, Horn and Myatt on their reappointments.

President Bechtle acknowledged outgoing member of the Board of Trustees, Judge Vaughn Walker, who served on the Board since March 2016. President Bechtle asked that a letter be sent to Judge Walker thanking him for his contributions to the Board of Trustees during the last four years.

Revised Committee Assignments for 2019: President Bechtle stated that revised committee assignments for 2019 have been distributed to Trustees. Revisions have been made to reflect the change in board appointments.

Resolution thanking Glenn McCoy on the occasion of his retirement: President Bechtle stated that Trustees have received today a proposed resolution honoring San Francisco Ballet Executive Director Glenn McCoy on the occasion of his retirement from the Ballet. She noted that Glenn is unable to join us today as he is at the “Dance USA” conference in Cleveland to receive an award, but that upon adoption of this resolution, we will forward it to him. On motion of Trustee Horn and seconded by Trustee Wilsey, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:
RESOLUTION NO. 19-19

Whereas,  GLENN MCCOY will conclude his 31-year tenure with the San Francisco Ballet in June 2019; and

Whereas,  Glenn McCoy joined the San Francisco Ballet in 1987 as Company Manager, and was appointed to the position of Executive Director in April 2002; and

Whereas,  During his tenure, Glenn McCoy has overseen the production of more than 130 new ballets, and more than 50 tours, and overseen operations for the San Francisco Ballet’s critically acclaimed international dance festival, UNited We Dance, in 1995; San Francisco Ballet’s 75th Anniversary Season in 2008; and the 2018 “Unbound” festival; and

Whereas,  Glenn McCoy has been an active leader in arts advocacy, spearheading two major ballot measures benefiting San Francisco arts organizations including the successful passing of Proposition E in 2018 which restores funding for San Francisco arts and culture from the City’s hotel tax; and

Whereas,  During the last two decades of enormous economic and technological change, Glenn McCoy has provided both steady and progressive leadership which has put the San Francisco Ballet into the front ranks of the world’s most innovative and accessible ballet companies. Glenn McCoy leaves the San Francisco Ballet after achieving organizational stability and global recognition and prepared to face challenges of the future; and

Whereas,  Residents of and visitors to San Francisco are – and will continue to be – the grateful beneficiaries of Glenn McCoy’s tenure at the San Francisco Ballet; now Therefore Be It

Resolved,  By the Board of Trustees of the War Memorial of San Francisco to hereby thank and commend GLENN MCCOY for his exemplary vision, skill and leadership in enhancing and strengthening the San Francisco Ballet and for his dedicated service to the cultural community of San Francisco, and extend to him heartfelt best wishes for his future endeavors.

Opera Summer Season:  President Bechtle stated that the San Francisco Opera opened its summer season on June 5, and the season will continue through June 29. On behalf of the Board, President Bechtle extended best wishes to the Opera for a successful summer season.

MANAGING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Rental Requests:  Ms. Murray stated that rental requests mailed to Trustees are routine and requested their approval. On motion of Trustee Horn, seconded by Trustee Myatt, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

RESOLUTION NO. 19-20

RESOLVED,  By the Board of Trustees of the War Memorial of San Francisco that the June 13, 2019 rental requests are hereby approved.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Revenue, Appropriations and Housekeeping Expenditures Reports for May 2019:  Ms. Norris stated that Revenue, Appropriations and Housekeeping Expenditures reports for May 2019 have been distributed to Trustees, and she requested approval of May 2019 housekeeping expenditures as submitted. On motion of Trustee Myatt, seconded by Trustee Wilsey, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:
RESOLUTION NO. 19-21

RESOLVED, By the Board of Trustees of the War Memorial of San Francisco that Purchase Order Nos. PO306043 through PO316760 are hereby approved.

REGULAR ITEMS

Civic Center Community Benefit District – Renewal Ballot:

President Bechtle stated that at the regular meeting on April 11, 2019, the Trustees adopted a resolution to authorize the President to sign a petition in the affirmative for the proposed 15-year renewal of the Civic Center Community Benefit District with respect to the parcels of real property under the jurisdiction of the War Memorial Board of Trustees. As was explained at the time, the Civic Center CBD, originally created in 2011, is proposing a 15-year renewal during which time all properties in the district will be assessed to cover costs for CBD services including exterior premises cleaning, day and night ambassadors, and marketing and communications programs to increase the use and safety of the district. The CBD’s proposed renewal budget is greatly expanded from the current CBD budget reflecting a significant expansion of services. There is a corresponding increase in the amount of annual assessments to be paid by properties in the district, with the War Memorial’s annual assessment increasing from the current $65,000 to $165,000. President Bechtle stated that the War Memorial’s proposed budget for fiscal year 2019-20 included this increased assessment amount to be funded by an increased contribution from the City’s General Fund, and the Mayor’s Office has approved this additional funding in the budget the Mayor has forwarded to the Board of Supervisors. It is expected that the War Memorial’s budget will be approved by the Board of Supervisors without amendment.

President Bechtle stated that the petition phase of the proposed CBD renewal achieved the necessary affirmative threshold to now move to the next phase which consists of a hearing before the Board of Supervisors and the casting of ballots by all property district owners for approval or non-approval of the CBD renewal. She said that staff is recommending that the Board of Trustees cast an affirmative ballot for the properties under the Trustees’ jurisdiction, noting that the CBD assessment increase will be covered by the City’s General Fund and that increased CBD services will have beneficial impact on the War Memorial.

Following discussion and on motion of Trustee Lui, seconded by Trustee Levin, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

RESOLUTION NO. 19-22

RESOLVED, By the Board of Trustees of the War Memorial of San Francisco that it hereby approves the submission of a ballot in the affirmative for the renewal of the Civic Center Community Benefit District with respect to the parcels of real property under the jurisdiction of the War Memorial Board of Trustees.

Election of Vice President for balance of calendar year 2019:

President Bechtle stated that with the departure of Trustee Walker from the Board of Trustees, it is necessary for the Board to fill the office of Vice President for the balance of calendar year 2019.

President Bechtle opened the floor to nominations for the office of Vice President of the Board of Trustees for the balance of calendar year 2019. Trustee Shultz nominated Thomas E. Horn as Vice President.

On motion of Trustee Shultz, seconded by Trustee Moscone, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

RESOLUTION NO. 19-23

RESOLVED, By the Board of Trustees of the War Memorial of San Francisco that nominations for the office of Vice President of the Board of Trustees for the balance of calendar year 2019 are hereby closed; and further
RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees unanimously elects Thomas E. Horn as its Vice President for the balance of calendar year 2019.

GOOD AND WELFARE

Trustee Myatt gave a brief history of the Gold Star Mothers Rock that is located in Heroes Grove in Golden Gate Park across from the de Young Museum. Trustee Myatt stated that a boulder was dedicated on Memorial Day 2019 to mark the entrance to Heroes Grove from JFK Drive.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

President Bechtle called for any general public comment. There being none, President Bechtle closed public comment.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, President Bechtle adjourned the meeting at 2:40 p.m.

Jennifer Norris
Assistant Managing Director