

**MINUTES**  
**WAR MEMORIAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**PRESENTORS LIAISON COMMITTEE / SPECIAL MEETING**  
**Thursday, February 13, 2020**

The Presentors Liaison Committee of the Board of Trustees of the War Memorial of San Francisco met at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 13, 2020, in the Trustees' Board Room, War Memorial Opera House, Chair Bechtle presiding.

**ROLL CALL**

Committee Members Present: Chair Bechtle, Trustee Lui, Trustee Moscone  
President Horn, *Ex Officio*

Committee Members Absent: Vice-chair Shultz and Trustee Wilsey

Non-Committee Members Present: Trustee Levin, Trustee Myatt

Staff Present: John Caldon, Managing Director  
Jennifer Norris, Assistant Managing Director

**REGULAR ITEMS**

**Global Gourmet Catering request to invest up to \$60,000 for food and beverage related facility improvements in the War Memorial Opera House as part of its contractually required investment for improvements:**

Chair Bechtle stated that during the December meeting of the Presentors Liaison Committee, at which there was no quorum and thus no action taken, Committee members received a presentation from Global Gourmet Catering requesting approval to make investments in furnishing and décor for the Opera House lower lounge as part of its contractually required investment for improvements. She further stated that in advance of today's meeting Trustees received Global Gourmet's revised "Proposed Opera Bar Redesign" packet prepared by Scott Fairbanks and Garo Eldemir. The presentation included two potential designs for the Opera House Lower Lounge bar, including floor plans and images of possible furnishings.

Chair Bechtle asked Mr. Fairbanks and Mr. Eldemir to review the revised "Proposed Opera Bar Redesign" and to answer questions from the Committee members.

Global Gourmet's presentation included reviewing two options for seating in the bar area. Both options include new high stools and high kiosk tables. Option 1 also includes two standard tables with 4 chairs each to accommodate patrons in wheelchairs and those less comfortable being seated at high tables. Option 2 consists of only high tables and high stools, but allows for additional seating overall. The budget for each option is just under \$60,000, which includes the purchase of new furniture and new paint in the bar area.

The presentation also included a decorative screen or divider to be positioned behind the two-seater restaurant tables adjacent to the pillars, the purpose of which is to create a clearer division between the bar area and the restaurant area. The design of the screen was controversial and will require more investigation before being constructed.

During public comment, Kelly Tweeddale, Executive Director of San Francisco Ballet, stated that their patron surveys indicate a desire for more social spaces in the building, and that the Ballet would be in favor of this upgrade to the bar area.

Following discussion, on a motion of Trustee Lui, seconded by Trustee Moscone, the following recommendation was unanimously adopted:

RECOMMENDED, To the Board of Trustees of the War Memorial of San Francisco that it approve Global

Gourmet’s proposed redesign of the Opera House lower lounge, and its expenditure of up to \$60,000 toward its contractually required investment for improvements. The Committee members requested that the details be discussed with staff and Trustee Gatti.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chair Bechtle called for public comment on items within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Committee, but which did not appear on the agenda. There being none, public comment was closed.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Chair Bechtle adjourned the meeting at 1:40 p.m.



Jennifer E. Norris  
Executive Secretary