

MINUTES
WAR MEMORIAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Thursday, July 13, 2023

The Board of Trustees of the War Memorial of San Francisco met in regular session on Thursday, July 13, 2023, at 2:00 p.m., in the Trustees’ Board Room, War Memorial Opera House, President Horn presiding.

ROLL CALL

Present: President Horn, Trustee Fisher, Trustee Gatti, Trustee Kopp, Trustee Muduroglu, Trustee Newstat, and Trustee Pelosi

Absent: Vice President Lui, Trustee Rocco, Trustee Wilsey (*appeared on video, not counted towards quorum or voting*) and Trustee Wright

Staff Present: Rob Levin, Acting Managing Director

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

President Horn had no updates to report to the Board.

MANAGING DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Approval of Consent Agenda: Acting Managing Director Levin stated that items submitted on the Consent Agenda included: the minutes of the Special Board Meeting June 21, 2023; Rental Requests for July 13, 2023; and the Revenue, Appropriations and Housekeeping Expenditures reports for June 2023.

Following discussion, on motion of Trustee Kopp, seconded by Trustee Pelosi, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

RESOLUTION NO. 23-19

RESOLVED, By the Board of Trustees of the War Memorial of San Francisco the minutes of the Special Board Meeting June 21, 2023; Rental Requests for July 13, 2023; and the Revenue, Appropriations and Housekeeping Expenditures reports for June 2023 are hereby approved.

Director Levin also updated the Board that the Opera’s Diversity, Equity and Community initiatives for *the Frida y Diego* performances were extremely successful. He noted that there was a large amount of public participation, and Global Gourmet sold out of food at a number of the activations. He reported that with the positive outcome for these events, the War Memorial will continue to support the Opera in these endeavors. Director Levin also reported on the summer maintenance of the buildings. He noted that the rebuilding steam boilers and replacement of electric transformers that power the stage lighting are on schedule.

REGULAR ITEMS

Update on Managing Director Hiring: President Horn reported that the Trustees voted to adopt the recommendation of the Special Hiring Committee and make an offer of appointment to Kate Sofis at the Special Meeting of the Board that took place on June 21, 2023. He noted that she accepted the offer, and a press release went out announcing the appointment. President Horn noted that the Board is required to report the roll call vote made during the closed session.

Upon motion by Trustee Wilsey, seconded by Trustee Wright, the following motion passed by a vote of 8-1.
 Yes: Horn, Lui, Muduroglu, Newstat, Pelosi, Rocco, Wilsey and Wright
 No: Kopp

Trustees Fisher and Gatti did not attend the June 21, 2023 meeting and did not vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 23-20

RESOLVED, By the Board of Trustees of the War Memorial of San Francisco to accept the recommendation of the Special Hiring Committee to appoint Kate Sofis as Managing Director of the San Francisco War Memorial Performing Arts Center, contingent upon completion of a background check and reaching a final agreement on start date and terms of employment is hereby approved.

President Horn noted that he met with Ms. Sofis and she is excited about the new position and will officially begin on July 24, 2023. He stated that she is full of ideas about the integral role that the War Memorial can play in the rejuvenation of the City of San Francisco, following the catastrophic impacts of the pandemic.

GOOD AND WELFARE

There being no further good and welfare, President Horn closed good and welfare.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Merc Martinelli, from the American Legion War Memorial Commission, reported on issues with office space in the Veterans Building, with questions about certain organizations not completing the process for approval. President Horn responded that staff should first be made aware of issues, prior to presenting them to the Board of Trustees. Trustee Kopp asked about which organizations were the subject of the request. Mr. Martinelli responded that the organizations were Vets in Tech and NPower. Trustee Kopp asked for information on the organizations that are seeking additional office space. President Horn noted that the process is to begin with staff, not to bring it to the Board in the first instance. There being no further public comment, President Horn closed public comment.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Horn adjourned the meeting at 2:10 p.m.



Rob Levin
 Acting Managing Director