

MINUTES
WAR MEMORIAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Thursday, October 9, 2025

The Board of Trustees of the War Memorial of San Francisco met in regular session on Thursday, October 9, 2025, at 2:01 p.m., in the Trustees' Board Room, War Memorial Opera House, President Wilsey presiding.

ROLL CALL

Present: President Wilsey, Vice President Horn, Trustee Gatti, Trustee Kopp, Trustee Lam, Trustee Makras, Trustee Muduroglu, Trustee Pelosi, Trustee Rocco and Trustee Wright

Absent: Trustee Newstat

Staff Present: Kate Sofis, Managing Director and Francesca Cicero, Board Secretary

Board Secretary Cicero made an opening announcement related to remote public comment. She stated that remote public comment, except as necessary for disability accommodations, has been discontinued. She noted that members of the public are invited to observe the meeting in-person or online, but only members of the public attending the meeting in-person will have an opportunity to provide public comment. She stated that no one online will be permitted to unmute themselves or present at the Board Meeting.

Requests for accommodation for remote public comment should be made at least 48 hours prior to the meeting, by email or voicemail (WarMemorialBoard@sfgov.org or 415-554-6377).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of Trustee Gatti, seconded by Trustee Rocco, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

RESOLUTION NO. 25-22

RESOLVED, By the Board of Trustees of the War Memorial of San Francisco, the minutes of the Veterans Committee and Regular meetings of September 11, 2025, are hereby approved.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Wilsey reported on the passing of former War Memorial Board of Trustee member Belva Davis.

MANAGING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Managing Director Kate Sofis reported that the San Francisco Performing Arts Center Foundation board authorized a financial management consultant to provide additional financial oversight and transparency to the outside licensee business run through the Foundation. She also noted that the Commission Streamlining Task Force met on October 1, 2025, and it recommended retaining the War Memorial Board of Trustees as part of the City Charter. She explained the Task Force also recommended all City commissions and boards implement term limits, but noted for the three charitable trust departments, the task force recommended the three respective boards pass their own term lengths and limits. Director Sofis also noted that the Task Force recommended that the Mayor hold the authority to hire and fire the Department Head/Managing Director, rather than the Board of Trustees. Vice President Horn instructed staff to explore the appeal process. Director Sofis noted that while staff could assist with a letter, any appeal should originate from the Trustees. Trustee Wright recommended that the Board make an appeal. Vice President Horn directed staff to draft a letter for the President's signature conveying the wishes of the

Board, after which the individual Board members can reach out to the Mayor's staff. Trustee Kopp asked that a copy of the letter be sent to each Board member. She also announced the new American Legion War Memorial Commission Chair is Mario Benfield and welcomed him into his new role.

BOARD SECRETARY'S REPORT

Board Secretary Cicero reminded the Board of their Department of Human Resources trainings due by the end of the year.

REGULAR ITEMS

Fee Waiver Request for Green Room: President Wilsey stated that at the September Board meeting, Vice President Horn noted that Katie Jarman reserved the Green Room in February 2026 for a Celebration of Life for her late husband Claude Jarman. She noted that Claude Jarman was both previously the Managing Director of the War Memorial and was a member of this Board for 33 years. Vice President Horn requested that the Green Room fees be waived for this event, in honor of Trustee Jarman and his family.

Following discussion on motion of Vice President Horn, seconded by Trustee Muduroglu, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

RESOLUTION NO. 25-23

RESOLVED, By the Board of Trustees of the War Memorial of San Francisco, the fee waiver for the rental of the Green Room for the Celebration of Life of Claude Jarman, scheduled for February 6, 2026, is hereby approved.

Presentation by San Francisco Opera on Planned Monkey King Activations. President Wilsey noted that *The Monkey King* is making its much-anticipated world premiere at the Opera House on Friday, November 14. She invited Ryan Marchand and Christabel Nunoo from the San Francisco Opera's Department of Engagement & Connectivity, to present on upcoming campus activations and events surrounding the Opera's upcoming performances of *The Monkey King*. Mr. Marchand noted that it was particularly important to activate the outdoor space surrounding the Memorial Court, as the Opera did previously with *Frida y Diego*. Ms. Nunoo announced a public market to be held outside of the Opera House corresponding with the final two shows on Friday, November 28 and Sunday matinee on November 30, held approximately two hours before curtain and is open to the public and greater community. She also highlighted a community screening at the Great Star Theatre in Chinatown and a day-long puppetry workshop with the Asian Art Museum. Director Sofis noted that the installation will not be over the Memorial Court grounds, but rather the area closest to Van Ness Avenue.

MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE

None.

GOOD AND WELFARE

There being no good and welfare, President Wilsey closed good and welfare.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Christopher Kline made public comment regarding equipment on top of the Asian Art Museum and Public Library. There being no additional public comment, President Wilsey closed public comment.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, President Wilsey adjourned the meeting at 2:29 p.m. in honor of Belva Davis.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'F. Cicero', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Francesca Cicero
Board Secretary