

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

**Thursday, December 8, 2022**

The Board of Trustees of the War Memorial of San Francisco met in regular session on Thursday, December 8, 2022, at 2:00 p.m., in the Trustees' Board Room, War Memorial Opera House, President Horn presiding. As authorized by California Government Code Section 54953(e) and Mayor Breed's 45th Supplement to her February 25, 2020 emergency proclamation, some members of the public also attended this meeting remotely.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: President Horn, Vice President Lui, Trustee Fisher, Trustee Kopp, Trustee Muduroglu,  
*(in person)* Trustee Newstat, Trustee Rocco, Trustee Wilsey, and Trustee Wright

Present: Trustee Pelosi  
*(remote on video)*

Absent: Trustee Gatti

Staff Present: John Caldon, Managing Director, and Rob Levin, Executive Secretary

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**Trustee Paul Pelosi:** President Horn began the meeting by acknowledging how happy he was to have Trustee Pelosi attending virtually from Washington D.C. Trustee Pelosi addressed the Board and indicated that his recovery is making good progress. He remarked at how overwhelmed he has been with the love and support he and his family have received. He noted he will be in D.C. for a few more days to see his daughter's new documentary film about Speaker Nancy Pelosi debut at the National Archives. Trustee Pelosi then congratulated Trustee Muduroglu on her new position as Chief of Protocol for the City and County of San Francisco and said he looked forward to the next generation continuing the work that Trustee Charlotte Shultz began.

**Maryam Muduroglu named Chief of Protocol:** President Horn reported it had been announced that Trustee Maryam Muduroglu was appointed Chief of Protocol for the City and County of San Francisco by Mayor London Breed. He congratulated her and noted that the Chief of Protocol has also served as a member of the War Memorial Board of Trustees for over 50 years. He noted that while Trustee Charlotte Shultz was irreplaceable, the mayor had set out to identify a candidate with a unique set of skills for the post. President Horn remarked that when the mayor introduced Trustee Muduroglu to the Consular Corps, she greeted the Consular Generals in a half dozen languages. He noted that with her multicultural and multilingual background, and her having been born in San Francisco and educated in Paris, she is going to be ideal in the role. Trustee Muduroglu thanked President Horn for his words.

**Opera Season:** President Horn congratulated the San Francisco Opera on concluding the first five operas of its Centennial Season and said he looks forward to the three operas scheduled for the summer season.

**Ballet Season:** President Horn announced it is Nutcracker season and noted that there were children lined up outside the Opera House prior to the Board meeting. He stated that this is the San Francisco Ballet's 90<sup>th</sup> season and wished the Ballet the best of luck.

## MANAGING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

**Approval of Consent Agenda:** Director Caldon stated that items submitted on the Consent Agenda included: the minutes of the Presentors Liaison Committee Meeting of November 7, 2022; minutes of the Veterans Committee Meeting of November 10, 2022; minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 10, 2022; Rental Requests for December 8, 2022; and the Resolution Adopting Findings to Allow Teleconferenced Meetings Under California Government Code.

On motion of Trustee Kopp, seconded by Trustee Wilsey, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

### RESOLUTION NO. 22-26

RESOLVED, By the Board of Trustees of the War Memorial of San Francisco that the minutes of the Presentors Liaison Committee Meeting of November 7, 2022; minutes of the Veterans Committee Meeting of November 10, 2022; minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 10, 2022; Rental Requests for December 8, 2022; and the Resolution Adopting Findings to Allow Teleconferenced Meetings Under California Government Code are hereby approved.

**Resignation of Managing Director:** Director Caldon shared with the Board that he will be resigning his position as Managing Director at the end of December 2022 to accept a new position as Executive Director of the musical festival Hardly Strictly Bluegrass. He expressed both his mixed emotions and his excitement at the new opportunity. He referenced his work with the City for the past 13 years, including a cumulative 10 years with the War Memorial, and how much he loves the people he works with, the buildings, and the art that is created in the venues.

Director Caldon shared that in addition to its being a tremendous career opportunity, he had a warm relationship with Trustee Nancy Bechtle, and because of her deep involvement with Hardly Strictly Bluegrass, he feels an emotional connection to it. He remarked on his career tenure at the War Memorial including managing the department through the COVID-19 pandemic, replacing seats in the Opera House, reorganizing the administrative processes and personnel of the department, and hiring 30 percent of the current full-time staff in just the last two years. He also expressed pride in supporting the Trustees to establish the Racial Equity and Cultural Awareness Committee. Director Caldon thanked everyone on the Board for their support.

President Horn expressed his best wishes to Director Caldon and said he believes Director Caldon will do a great job with an organization that has deep ties with the War Memorial Board. He remarked on actions taken by Director Caldon during his tenure that strengthened the department, including hiring talented people to key senior staff positions. President Horn noted that Director Caldon is leaving the department in a stronger position than it was three years ago when he was appointed by the Trustees.

President Horn then turned to the process for finding a new Managing Director. He began by naming a Search Committee, to be chaired by him, which will include Vice President Lui, Trustee Newstat, Trustee Wilsey, and Trustee Wright. He anticipates that it will take 4-6 months to complete the process and said Trustees should do everything possible to attract a broad array of applicants. He noted that Trustee Wright has agreed to work closely with him to ensure that the Board maximizes outreach.

He noted that senior staff will coordinate a vetting process, which will lead to a number of candidates who will be interviewed by the Search Committee. He continued that any candidate that receives consensus by the Search Committee, will be brought to the full Board of Trustees, which will make the final decision on hiring. President Horn also announced that in the interim, Assistant Managing Director/Executive Secretary Rob Levin, will be the Acting Managing Director of the department and he expressed his confidence in Secretary Levin. The Trustees expressed how sad they were to lose Director Caldon, how happy they were for his having this opportunity, and that they were thankful he will continue working in the arts in San Francisco.

### **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

**Housekeeping Expenditures:** Executive Secretary Levin stated that items submitted on the Revenue, Appropriations, and Housekeeping Expenditure reports for November 2022 were distributed to Trustees.

On motion of Vice President Lui, seconded by Trustee Muduroglu, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 22-27**

RESOLVED, By the Board of Trustees of the War Memorial of San Francisco that the November 2022 Housekeeping Expenditure Reports are hereby approved.

Secretary Levin expressed his congratulations to Director Caldon and expressed that he will do his best to fill in as Acting Managing Director until the successor is chosen.

### **REGULAR ITEMS**

**Election of President & Vice President:** President Horn opened the floor to nominations for the office of President of the War Memorial Board of Trustees for calendar year 2023.

Trustee Wilsey nominated Thomas E. Horn for the office of President. She expressed her confidence that he could take on the role. Trustee Newstat seconded the nomination and echoed Trustee Wilsey's comments about President Horn's hard work on behalf of the War Memorial and the City and County of San Francisco.

There being no further nominations, President Horn closed the nominations for President.

After discussion, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 22-28**

RESOLVED, By the Board of Trustees of the War Memorial of San Francisco that nominations for the office of President of the Board of Trustees for 2023 are hereby closed; and further,

RESOLVED, That the Board unanimously re-elects Thomas E. Horn as President for calendar year 2023.

Trustee Newstat then nominated Gorretti Lo Lui for the office of Vice President, noting her care for the institution and engagement in the community. She stated that Vice President Lui remaining in the role will allow for continuity of leadership in the department. Trustee Fisher seconded the nomination.

There being no further nominations, President Horn closed the nominations for Vice President.

After discussion, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 22-29**

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 2023 are hereby closed; and further,

RESOLVED, That the Board unanimously re-elects Gorretti Lo Lui as Vice President for calendar year 2023.

President Horn noted that he has been honored to be on the Board for 41 years and said he looks forward to continuing his service. He remarked on how much these buildings mean to the cultural life in San Francisco, as well as the continued remembrance of our veterans. Vice President Lui expressed her gratitude to the Board and said she looks forward to contributing as much as possible to the City in this role.

### **GOOD AND WELFARE**

Trustee Pelosi noted the wonderful job that Director Caldon has done for the department and said that Hardly Strictly Bluegrass is a wonderful organization, and that Director Caldon will be able to contribute his talents to further its work. There being no further good and welfare, President Horn closed good and welfare.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Public comment is an opportunity for members of the public to directly address the Trustees on items within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board, but not on the agenda.

President Horn stated that during COVID-19 health emergency while Trustees are meeting remotely, members of the public may address the Board by emailing their public comment to [WarMemorialBoard@sfgov.org](mailto:WarMemorialBoard@sfgov.org) or by leaving public comment as a voicemail at 415-554-6377 in advance of Board meetings. President Horn also invited the public to leave additional public comment until 12:00 p.m. on War Memorial Board meeting day. Trustees encourage the public to provide their comments and feedback by email or voicemail. It should be noted that no public comment was received either prior to the meeting or in the subsequent week.

There being no public comment, President Horn closed public comment.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, President Horn adjourned the meeting at 2:25 p.m.



Rob Levin  
Executive Secretary