

**MINUTES**  
**WAR MEMORIAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**  
**Thursday, December 12, 2024**

The Board of Trustees of the War Memorial of San Francisco met in regular session on Thursday, December 12, 2024, at 2:04 p.m., in the Trustees’ Board Room, War Memorial Opera House, President Horn presiding.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: President Horn, Vice President Wilsey, Trustee Fisher, Trustee Gatti, Trustee Kopp, Trustee Muduroglu, Trustee Newstat, Trustee Pelosi, Trustee Rocco, and Trustee Wright

Absent: Trustee Lui

Staff Present: Kate Sofis, Managing Director; Rob Levin, Assistant 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).

**PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

President Horn congratulated the San Francisco Ballet on the opening of *The Nutcracker*, which runs from December 6 through December 29, 2024. He also reported that the San Francisco Symphony musicians have agreed to extend their current contract to January 18, 2025. He stated that the San Francisco Symphony chorus has also reached a two-year agreement thanks to an anonymous donor. President Horn also congratulated Trustee Pelosi and Congresswoman Pelosi on the award given to them by the San Francisco Opera Guild. He also reported that Vice President Wilsey was named a “San Francisco Icon” by the Examiner.

**MANAGING DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Managing Director Kate Sofis reported that the Mayor’s Budget Office has directed all departments to enact a 15% permanent cut in expenses covered by the General Fund. She noted that the War Memorial Department is funded by both the General Fund and earned income revenue, with 75-78% coming from the General Fund support. She explained that 15 percent is approximately \$1 million dollars. She stated that staff is looking at ways to increase revenue in the buildings, as well as economize on items without cutting into the needs that keep the buildings running such as engineering, security, and bookings.

**ASSISTANT MANAGING DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Assistant Managing Director Rob Levin stated that the figures in the revenue report appear to show that the revenue numbers are down this year from this time last year. He explained, however, this is due to a number of checks not having cleared during the time for finalizing the reporting at the end of the month, for venues such as the Wilsey Center and the Opera House. Trustee Wright commented that she sees great potential for the Thomas E. Horn lounge under the Herbst Theatre and Trustee Kopp agreed.

## **BOARD SECRETARY REPORT**

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On motion of Trustee Newstat, seconded by Trustee Fisher, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 24-23**

RESOLVED, By the Board of Trustees of the War Memorial of San Francisco, the minutes of the November 14, 2024, Regular meeting of the Board are hereby approved.

Board Secretary Cicero noted the calendar of meetings for 2025 has been established and reminded the Board of their training requirements due by the end of the calendar year.

### **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 2025.

Trustee Wright nominated Diane B. Wilsey for the office of President. Trustee Kopp seconded the nomination.

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

After discussion, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 24-24**

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 2025 are hereby closed; and further,

RESOLVED, That the Board unanimously elects Diane B. Wilsey as President for calendar year 2025.

Trustee Muduroglu then nominated Thomas E. Horn for the office of Vice President. Trustee Gatti 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. 24-25**

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 2025 are hereby closed; and further,

RESOLVED, That the Board unanimously elects Thomas E. Horn as Vice President for calendar year 2025.

### **MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE**

None.

### **GOOD AND WELFARE**

Trustee Fisher thanked the Board and Director Sofis, Director Levin and Secretary Ciero for the opportunity to serve and learn so much during her time as a Trustee. She praised President Horn and Vice President Wilsey for their leadership in difficult times, as the new year will bring these upcoming budget cuts. Trustee Muduroglu and Trustee Newstat also thanked Trustee Fisher for her service. There being no further good and welfare, President Horn closed good and welfare.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

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

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, President Horn adjourned the meeting at 2:28 p.m.

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

Francesca Cicero  
Board Secretary