

GRIGNON MANSION BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Monday, October 28, 2024

The meeting was called to order by Pennie Thiele at 5:00 PM in the Municipal Services Building, Hydro View Room.

Roll Call

Present – Sandy Coenen, Christina Crook, Gavin Schmitt, Brian Buechel, Pennie Thiele, Bruce Werschem

Absent – Patty Brogan

Others in Attendance – Terri Vosters

Review/Approve Minutes from September 23, 2024 Meeting

Motion by Coenen to approve meeting minutes, with the spelling alteration of "Cook" to "Crook." Seconded by Werschem. Motion unanimously approved.

Report from the City (Vosters)

Report from Friends (Werschem)

Report from the Chair (Thiele)

Discussion was open among the three and the board as a whole, making it difficult to delineate where one report ends and another begins. Matters discussed were as follows:

- a. Vosters attended two recent Friends meetings and tasked them with determining what they would like to see from the new Community Enrichment position. In the short term, it was thought the position would be a liaison between the Friends and the City, with event planning and operation falling more on the Friends side. Friends would still like to see a designated employee for the Mansion to handle the historic end of things and on-site management.
- b. Werschem agreed, and said he would like to see more commitment from the City accepting the Mansion as an active project rather than an afterthought. Vosters said a Mansion director would be a hard sell at this time due to other department needs. In general, Friends may have to temporarily scale back events because membership is down; two key volunteers have stepped back.
- c. Thiele brought up the idea of needing to encourage community support, an idea seconded by Schmitt – the difference between experts saying something is important, and the community feeling it is, and why the second is necessary for sustainability. Thiele further said she has found that museums often have highs and lows, and right now there is competition for citizen funding – the City, the school district and the utilities would all like to expand. With this in mind, the 2025 focus should be on the growth of community, not budget.
- d. By board consensus, November's meeting will be an invitation to Friends to have a roundtable discussion on where we go from here.

Other Business

None.

Set Next Meeting Date and Location

Monday, November 25, 2024 at 4:30 PM in the Hydro View Room was set.

Adjournment

Motion by Coenen. Seconded by Schmitt. Motion unanimously approved, with meeting adjourned at 5:48pm.