

# MEMO



## GRIGNON MANSION

To: Health and Recreation Committee  
From: Cassidy Mickelson, Grignon Mansion Executive Director  
Date: August 5, 2024  
Re: Grignon Mansion Civil Reenactor Background Checks

### Background Information:

At the April 15, 2024, Health and Recreation Meeting, a motion to approve the Grignon Mansion Civil War Living History Demonstration was made contingent on receiving background checks and proof of insurance. The minutes of the April 15th Health & Recreation Meeting were adopted at the April 16, 7:00 PM Common Council Meeting, and a new Council was seated at 7:30 PM at the April 16th meeting. Because a new Council has been seated, I would like to revisit the concern about background checks on Civil War Reenactors.

I have spoken to other organizations (Wisconsin Historical Society, Manitowoc County Historical Society & Heritage Hill State Historical Park) who host overnight reenactments, and they do not run background checks on their reenactors. Instead, they all use a waiver that removes liability from their organization.

I have received insurance from the primary group that organizes the reenactors, and each participant will sign a waiver, removing any liability from the City of Kaukauna and the Friends of the Grignon Mansion. (see attached).

**Strategic Plan:** N/A

**Budget:** N/A

### Staff Recommended Action:

Staff seeks Civil War Living History Demonstration approval without the contingency to run background checks on reenactors.