

# GRIGNON MANSION BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Monday, January 22, 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 – Al Borchardt, Sandy Coenen, Christina Crook, Gavin Schmitt, Pennie Thiele, Bruce Werschem

Absent – Patty Brogan

Others in Attendance – Cassidy Mickelson

## Review/Approve Minutes from November 27, 2023 Meeting

- Motion by Gavin Schmitt to approve meeting minutes. Seconded by Bruce Werschem. Motion Unanimously Approved.

## Report from the City

- 2024 Grignon Mansion Events
  - **Native American Dance Performance, May 18, 2024**
    - Performance
      - 12:30 PM – 1:30 PM
    - Guided Grignon Mansion Tours
      - 1:30 PM – 4 PM
  - **Little Chute Community Band, June 12, 2024**
    - 7 PM – 8 PM
  - **Grignon Mansion Car Show, August 11, 2024**
    - 11 AM – 3 PM
  - **Civil War Living History Demonstration, August 24 & 25, 2024**
    - Saturday, 10 AM – 4 PM
    - Sunday, 10 AM – 3 PM
  - **Grignon Mansion Christmas Tours, December 7, 8, 14 & 15, 2024**
    - Daytime Tours: 2 PM – 4 PM
    - Candlelight Tours: 4 PM – 7 PM
- Strategic Plan Update
  - Mickelson will meet with Terri Vosters to get the ball rolling on a strategic plan for the Grignon Mansion. The Friends of the Grignon Mansion have restricted funds to spend on long term planning that could be used for the project as well. The Board requested copies of the Kaukauna Public Library and 1000 Islands Environmental Center's strategic plans.

## Report from Friends

- Financial Reports
  - December 2023
    - Grant Money Account - Beginning balance of \$40,057.84, ending balance \$40,067.94.
    - Checking Account - Beginning balance of \$4,488.49, ending balance \$1,082.95.
    - Savings Account – Beginning balance of \$23,455.27 ending balance of \$26,261.13.
    - Grignon Mansion CD – Balance of \$25,000

## **Report from the Chair**

- Nothing additional to report from the Council level.

## **Other Business**

- Nominations for Elections of Officers
  - Chair – Motion by Bruce Werschem to nominate Pennie Thiele for Board Chair, seconded by Sandy Coenen. Motion Unanimously Approved.
  - Vice Chair – Motion by Pennie Thiele to nominate Bruce Werschem, second by Al Borchardt Motion Unanimously Approved.
  - Secretary – Motion by Sandy Coenen to nominate Gavin Schmitt seconded by Sandy Coenen. Motion Unanimously Approved.
- Werschem expressed his strong opposition to combining the Grignon Mansion Executive Director role into the Community Enrichment Program Manager role. He believes that in order for the Grignon Mansion to continue to grow and be successful, there needs to be a full time staff member assigned to the Grignon Mansion.
- There was more discussion regarding long term projects and the role a Strategic Plan will play in deciding the next steps for the Grignon Mansion. Werschem recommended that staff and the board begin to get estimates prior to the completion of the document from a local business. He is worried the plan will not be specific enough to give direction. Thiele replied that the plan will give the Board and City as much or as little detail requested, depending on the firm that is worked with. Coenen requested that board members write down their goals and requests for the future of the Grignon Mansion. Borchardt stated his concern about the future of programming and how information is delivered to the public and wants to continue the momentum we have gained. Thiele explained her vision for an additional building on the grounds that aesthetically looks historic, but functionally is modern.
- Werschem requested an update on the Civic Engagement Class project. He is concerned some City officials do not share the same goals as the Grignon Mansion Board for the future of the space in Lower Grignon Park. Thiele shared that there have not been any updates to the project at this time.

## **Set Next Meeting Date and Location**

- Monday, February 26, 2024 at 5:00 PM in the Hydro View Room.

## **Adjourn at 5:32 PM**

- Motion by Sandy Coenen. Seconded by Bruce Werschem. Motion Unanimously Approved.