

GRIGNON MANSION BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Monday, February 25, 2019

The meeting was called to order by Bruce Werschem at 5:02pm at the Hydro View Meeting Room at the Kaukauna Municipal Services Building.

1. Roll Call (Mader)
   1. Present: John Brogan, Bruce Werschem, Diana Driessen, Pennie Thiele, Bob Jackel, Al Borchardt, Shellee Ziegler, and Haley Mader
   2. Absent: Paul Ploetz
   3. Others in Attendance: Patty DeGoey, Allyson Watson, and Peter Peregrine
2. Welcome Others in Attendance –
   1. The Board welcomed its newest member, Shellee Ziegler.
   2. Peter Peregrine, Professor of Anthropology and Museum Studies at Lawrence University was introduced to the board.
3. Review/Approval of Prior Minutes – A motion was made by Diana Driessen to approve the prior meeting minutes and was seconded by Bruce Werschem.
4. Nominations Opened for Election of Officers –
   1. Board President, John Brogan – A motion was made by Bruce Werschem to reelect John as President and was seconded by Pennie Thiele.
   2. Vice President, Bruce Werschem – A motion was made by John Brogan to reelect Bruce as Vice President and was seconded by Diana Driessen.
   3. Secretary, Haley Mader – A motion was made by John Brogan to reelect Haley as Secretary and was seconded by Pennie Thiele.
5. Report from City (Watson/Jakel)
   1. Update on CN railroad crossing on Augustine Street – Allyson followed up with the City’s Engineering Department about the rough railroad tracks leading down to the Mansion. The State of Wisconsin has continued to be very difficult to work with on this issue. A formal request must be submitted to the Commission of Railroads at the state level in order to proceed.

1. Report from Friends (DeGoey)
   1. Friends Finance Report – discussion tabled until the next meeting.
   2. Report on Christmas event – discussion tabled until the next meeting.
   3. Other Issues –
      1. New Event – a Fur Trade Encampment will take place at the Mansion April 13th and 14th.
      2. Paranormal Investigation of the Mansion – a paranormal group has contacted the Mansion about conducting a paranormal investigation on the grounds. Further discussion to continue at the next board meeting.
2. Report from the Chair
   1. Meeting with Peter Peregrine, Lawrence University – John Brogan met with Peter to discuss his findings from the excavation at the Mansion.
   2. Meeting with Curt Detjen, Community Foundation of the Fox Valley – John Brogan met with Curt Detjen to discuss what the Community Fund grant might be used for besides the summer kitchen. John to follow up with the Curt to further discuss other priorities of the Mansion.
3. Guest Presentation (Peregrine)
   1. Recommendations for the Grignon Mansion – An overview of the report was provided by Peter. The focus of the report was to identify how the City of Kaukauna might develop the Grignon Mansion. The board plans to focus on developing a clear historical story of the Fox Valley and Grignon family as exemplified through experiences of the Grignon Mansion is self, its collections, and its grounds and outbuildings.
   2. Lawrence University Archeological Reports #11 – An overview of the report was provided by Peter. The findings in the report were based upon an excavation conducted by Peter and his students this past Fall to evaluate a proposed location for the summer kitchen.
      1. The focus was primarily in the back of the house to see if there were any archeological findings. Glass shards, pottery pieces, and bullet casings were found.
      2. A soil resistivity survey was done to indicate how moist the soil was beneath the ground. From the survey results, Peter found that there were post holes for various structures called Oneota longhouses. Peter recommended a full state excavation be conducted on site.
4. Other Business
   1. Memorandum of Understanding with Lawrence University for Accessing Grignon Mansion and Creating Collection Archival System – Allyson informed the board about the importance of creating a true collections data base detailing all the assets in the Mansion. Allyson continues to work with Peter on the Mansions record keeping practices. The City and Lawrence has drawn up a MOU.
      * 1. A motion was made by John Brogan to grant Peter and his students limited access to the Mansion to complete a full assessment of the Mansion’s current assets ultimately generating a complete data base in PastPerfect (collections management software), the motion was seconded by Pennie Thiele. A memorandum will be reviewed at the next City Council meeting.
   2. Location of future Grignon Mansion Board meetings and meeting frequency – a consensus was agreed upon to continue to meet in the Hydro View Room at the Kaukauna Municipal Services Building during the winter months and meet at the Grignon Mansion when weather is conducive. Meetings will continue to occur monthly.
5. Next Board Meeting *–* Monday, March 25th at 5:00pm in the Hydro View Meeting Room at the Kaukauna Municipal Services Building.

Adjournment – A motion to adjourn was made by Bruce Werschem at 6:30pm, seconded by Diana Driessen.

Haley Mader, *Secretary*