

**GRAND OPERA HOUSE ADVISORY BOARD  
MINUTES  
NOVEMBER 16, 2009  
ROXY SUPPER CLUB**

Present: Braxton Peterson, Mary Louise Lewis, Diane Popowski, Marvin Mengeling, Marilyn Haberkorn and Marilyn Rogge. Also present were GOH Executive Director Joe Ferlo, General Services Director Jon Urben and Assistant City Manager/Director of Administrative Services John Fitzpatrick. Excused were members Barbara Baier and Keith Sparr.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Chair Rogge called the meeting to order at 7:24 P.M. Chair Rogge also noted that the City had formally received the resignation of member Jennifer Bungi-Walsh.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 17, 2009 MEETING:**

It was motioned by Lewis, seconded by Haberkorn, that the August 17, 2009, minutes be approved as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**OLD BUSINESS: UPDATE OF THE GRAND RENOVATION PROJECT**

Chair Rogge then asked for an update on the Grand renovation project. Mr. Urben began by noting that working in conjunction with the Grand's Decorative Elements Group, the City had hired Conrad Schmitt Studios to provide artistic services for the decorative elements of the hall interior including the cherubs, the floral cove, the GOH logo and Shakespeare. He noted Rick Statz from Conrad Schmitt would be the project manager and they had begun work this past week. Mr. Urben also noted that the City had recently hired Terry Laib from Laib Restoration to complete the soffit trim removal project. He noted Terry Laib was in the Grand this past week working on this project. Mr. Urben thanked Mr. Ferlo and his staff for all of their cooperation and assistance in the renovation process.

Mr. Fitzpatrick noted that the City formally received notice from the State of Wisconsin for their \$500,000 contribution to the project. He also wanted to thank the Grand Opera House downtown neighbors for their patience and understanding during the renovation process. Mr. Fitzpatrick noted that on behalf of City Manager Mark Rohloff who could not attend tonight's meeting, he wanted to thank the Grand Opera House Advisory Board for their support and commitment to this project.

Mr. Ferlo noted several businesses and organizations were stepping forward to contribute to the project in a variety of methods. He noted Winnebago County made a \$30,000 pledge towards the renovation project. He also noted a portion of the proceeds from an upcoming chili cookoff and fashion show would also be forwarded towards the project. From a staff perspective, Mr. Ferlo noted he estimated approximately 20% of staff time to date was contributed towards working on the renovation project. Mr. Ferlo thanked his

staff and City staff including Mr. Urben and Mr. Fitzpatrick, for all their help in the project.

Some discussion then followed on renovation issues. It was confirmed that the Grand chandelier would be repaired and reinstalled as part of the project. As to when the Grand would reopen for performances, it was noted they are planning on reopening for the fall, 2010 season. Mr. Ferlo went on to note that Grand staff are already starting dialogue on how to celebrate the grand opening, and that he hoped he could solicit ideas and input from the Grand Opera House Advisory Board members in the coming months. Mr. Ferlo noted the Grand Opera House Foundation fully expected the Grand Lounge project to be completed in conjunction with the Grand reopening timeframes.

NEW BUSINESS:

Chair Rogge then asked for nominations for officers. It was motioned by Lewis, seconded by Haberkorn that Rogge be nominated for another term as Chair of the Board. There were no other nominations. Motion carried unanimously. Chair Rogge then asked for nominations for Vice-Chair. It was motioned by Chair Rogge, seconded by Haberkorn, that Lewis be nominated for another term as Vice-Chair of the Board. There were no other nominations. Motion carried unanimously.

There being no other business, it was motioned by Lewis and seconded by Paterson that the Grand Opera House Advisory Board adjourn at 7:54 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Urben', written in a cursive style.

Jon Urben, Secretary

cc Mark Rohloff, City Manager  
John Fitzpatrick, Assistant City Manager/Director of Administrative Services