

Minutes of the Memorial Hall Board of Trustees meeting Wednesday, May 20, 2020

REMOTE MEETING: The meeting was called to order by Chair Mary Sexton
Board Members in attendance via roll call: Chair Mary Sexton, Trustees Lou Izzi, Mike Margolis and Laura Paladino.

Chairman Mary Sexton opened meeting at 6:01 pm.

Memorial Hall Update:

Order # 2020-69 that was presented to the Appropriations Committee on May 7, 2020 was recommended for passage to the full City Council meeting unanimously.

The following members of the public spoke in favor of Order 2020-69

- Eric DiNoto, Trustee of Sailors and Soldiers Memorial Building
- Scott Forbes, Former Melrose Alderman
- RuthAnn Puppo, representing Melrose Youth Ballet
- Joan Ford Mongeau, President, Friends of Memorial Hall non-profit group
- Mayor Paul Brodeur

Additionally, the City Council received letters (emails) of support from 25 people

Memorial Hall Update: Kathy Pigott-Brodeur, Executive Director was told the City of Melrose is looking to possibly hold “early voting” at Memorial Hall for the fall 2020 elections, (September, October and November 2020). Presently, their our several voting bills under review at the State House. When the voting process has been finalized, they will review the requirements to determine the best options available to them and follow the Memorial Hall Building request process (send letter of facility request to Board of Trustees).

Memorial Hall re-opening plan: Kathy Pigott-Brodeur, Executive Director, updated the Trustees on the status of the opening of the building. As per MA State guidelines, Memorial Hall falls under Phase 3 and the soonest the building may possibly be allowed to open is July 1, 2020. Phase 2 & 3 will occur after a state review of the MA Health Data. As of today, the regulations still do not allow any gatherings greater than 10. Guidelines for Phase 1 were sent out the Friday before the Monday scheduled start date. The re-opening of the facility will depend upon the MA State Phase 3 re-opening guidelines outlining the requirements for cleaning, social distancing, occupancy etc.

The Trustees requested Kathy to start working on the re-opening of the facility in terms of equipment needed, cleaning procedure/protocol, staff training and social distancing requirements so the facility will be ready to open as close as possible to the announced start date of Phase 3.

Kathy received a request to rent on July 1 & 2, 2020. She would like to not take rentals until later in July as she does not feel confident Memorial Hall will open on July 1st. Trustees requested she explain to the renter there is no guarantee that the hall will be open on July 1st and she has to bear the risk of Memorial Hall not being open.

Motion to extend the current terms of the rental contract through Fiscal Year 21 (July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021 made by Trustee Izzi

Seconded by Chair Sexton. Roll call vote: Chair Sexton, Trustees Paladino, DiNoto, Izzi, and Margolis, All voted in the affirmative; none opposed; Motion carried

Public Participation: none

Next Monthly Trustees meeting: June 2020, date to be determined.

Motion to Adjourn at 6:45 pm made by Trustee Izzì

Seconded by Chair Sexton Roll call vote: Chair Sexton, Trustees Paladino, DiNoto, Izzì, and Margolis, All voted in the affirmative; none opposed; Motion carried

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Pigott-Brodeur, Memorial Hall Executive Director

Distribution: Chair Mary Sexton, Trustees Eric DiNoto, Lou Izzì, Mike Margolis, and Laura Paladino