

GRIGNON MANSION BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Monday, June 15, 2026

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Gavin Schmitt, at 4:33 p.m. in the Municipal Services Building, Hydro View Room.

Roll Call

Present – Gavin Schmitt, Christina Crook, Brian Schuh, Brian Buechel, Bruce Werschem

Absent – Lyle Hansen, Pennie Thiele,

Others in Attendance – Allison Engels

Public Appearances- Mary Grogan-Seleen- Friends Group

Review/Approve Minutes from May 18, 2026 Meeting

Motion to approve Minutes, Werschem moves, Schuh seconds, Minutes approved.

Report from the City

Engels updates the Board as to state of restorations at the Grignon due to the water damage. Floors were completed last week; JG Restorations will come in to complete last minute items. Streets crew helped move items. During the last Friends meeting, they gave the go ahead to reassemble the basement, gift shop and displays. Insurance should cover it all, waiting on final bill. Grogan-Seleen indicates Friends could pick up any overage.

Regarding the mold issue on the 2nd floor, getting quotes and went with JG Restorations, quote was \$7,407. The mold remediation includes a washing, two (2) coats of paint and a sealer. No tours until the mold issue is resolved. Engels will see if there is any type of warranty on the job. Discussion of a possible AprilAire installation, Schuh obtained a quote from Bobs Quality Heating & Airconditioning of \$3,500 for one unit and approximately \$6,000 to do both basement and upstairs, agreed to do both furnaces. Discussion of utilizing the \$50,000 donation towards these costs.

Discussion of a priority list included:

- Fence
- Woodpecker damage
- Replacing windows
- Furnace control
- Porch touch-up

Schuch indicates the jobs to be completed in order should be: woodpecker damage, fix porch (i.e. calking so there is no water leaking) touch up the front. Grogan-Seleen confirms the 3rd floor window frame is rotted through and needs attention. Schuh indicates he may be able to fix the window. Werschem indicates the area along the fence needs updating and that the flowers are not growing. Schuh indicates he could pitch in to paint the fence and address the flowers in the fall. Werschem continues that the fence in the front should have a nice clean appearance. Schuh suggests that the Friends could buy exterior white paint and that the back hatch needs to be painted as well. Werschem suggests going to Carstens for paint. Grogan-Seleen indicates that in the past paint was obtained from Dimond Vogel through Sara. Schuh is going to look in the basement at the paint currently stored. Grogan- Grogan-Seleen indicates that Carol's husband may have extra fence pickets. Regarding the woodchuck, contact with a pest control company may be necessary.

Final discussion of the priority list in order of importance:

- Woodpecker damage
- Window
- Fence
- Sign

Engels discusses the continued issues with the porch and will check with the city about this issue. The Board understands we may need to pay for a repair to the porch.

Schuh regarding painting the house, suggested doing one side of the house each year on a rotating basis.

Circling back to the furnace, the Board discussed getting the AprilAire furnace fixed/installed by the Friends.

Regarding the time capsule, the city is working to find someone to find the time capsule.

Report from Friends

Grogan-Seleen indicated that the opening of the season has been delayed due to the mold and basement issues. Plan to open for tours at the time we reveal the time capsule, if found, on July 26, 2026. The time capsule will be located in advance and discussion of media involvement to make it an event. Werschem suggests to invite the Times Villager. Grogan-Seleen continues with the upcoming event schedule, including the Little Chute band on the upcoming Wednesday, confirms Culvers is donating 100 scoops/bowls of ice cream. Again, opening for tours on July 26, 2026, update regarding car show which preparations are going well and are under way. Lost Arts event, still planning and securing people to participate.

There are no cleaning dates yet due to the work being done on the Mansion. There are new photos for the downstairs. Schuh indicates he stopped by a museum which has interactive displays, discussion of updating displays and what could be accomplished.

Report from the Chair

Schmitt requests clarification regarding persons that are currently banned from being at the Mansion and on the property. Engels will get clarification so that the Friends and Board know what the protocol is moving forward.

Schmitt provided information regarding the DAR Historic Preservation Grants for the Board to review and discuss a possible grant application. Werschem brought up using a grant for a summer kitchen, upon brief review, a summer kitchen may not be eligible. Schmitt discussed interpretive signage. Interpretive signage in Portage, WI as part of a walking trail was discussed. Schuh indicated he will recommend to the Friends to discuss interpretive signage. Grogan-Seleen discussed using signage to keep the home relevant. Schmitt indicated the new basement set-up could be a benefit at keeping the home relevant.

Other Business

N/A

Set Next Meeting Date and Location

Monday, July 20, 2026 at 4:30 p.m.

Adjournment

Motion by Werschem, seconded by Buechel. Motion unanimously approved, with meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.