GRIGNON MANSION BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Monday, October 19, 2026

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Brian Schuh, at 4:31 p.m. in the Municipal Services Building, Hydro View Room.

**Roll Call**

Present - Brian Schuh, Bruce Werschem, Lyle Hansen, Pennie Thiele

Not in Attendance- Christina Crook, Brian Buechel

Others in Attendance - Allison Engels

Public Appearances- Mary Grogan-Seleen- Friends Group

**Review/Approve Minutes from September 28, 2026 Meeting**

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

**Report from the City**

Engels indicates that the five (5) trees were planted by the Parks Department on 10-08-26. The Friend Group will now be in charge of watering them and basic maintenance.

Engels indicates that the previously discussed security cameras for the mansion would fall under a capital project. Since the cameras would be located on the exterior of the home and property, Engels will take this on and begin the process if that is what the Board would like to pursue. Discussion of whether cameras inside the home are needed, with the main concern being cameras near the front porch/door and along the property line. A motion was made by Thiele to approve the installation of cameras around the property and ask the City to make it a capital project. Werschem seconds. Motion carried.

**Report from the Friends**

Grogan-Seleen indicated that two (2) Life Long Learning tours were held this past month and both were full. Grogan-Seleen has put out a request to the Friends Group for assistance with decorating the mansion for the upcoming Christmas Tours. Decorating dates at the home are scheduled for Wednesday, November 18th from 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm and Saturday, November 21st from 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm. Christmas Tours are scheduled for December 4, 5, 11, and 12. Friday tours will be held from 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm and Saturday tours from 2:00 pm - 7:00 pm.

Schuh indicated that the time capsule burial has been postponed until sometime in the spring. The group is still waiting for organizations to provide materials to be included in the time capsule. The time capsule container is ready to go. Discussion of the Friends Group possibly making an event out of the burial, with further discussion to take place.

Werschem indicated that the mansion float will be participating in the Appleton, Little Chute, and Kaukauna Christmas parades. The driver for the float has been arranged.

Grogan-Seleen indicated that blacksmith Vince De La Paz is interested in offering blacksmith classes. Discussion of possibly including the classes in the Recreation Program Guide.

**Report from the Chair**

Schuh brought up discussion of the mansion's third floor and the possibility of opening it up for tours. Schuh requested that the Board think about possible uses for the space and what could be displayed upstairs. One room on the third floor is currently filled with artifacts that are not being displayed. Discussion of reaching out to Peter N. Peregrine from Lawrence University to see if he has students who may be interested in cataloging the artifacts in the upstairs room. Concerns were brought up regarding the narrowness of the upstairs area and having multiple people in the space at one time. Engels will find Peter N. Peregrine 's contact information and send it to Schuh to get the process started.

Schuh brought up discussion of the donation wall in the basement of the mansion and feels this is an opportunity that should be utilized to pursue sponsorships and community outreach. Discussion indicated that the donation wall could be leveraged to encourage donations toward a specific community project, while also creating opportunities to establish new business relationships and support various community projects. Discussion also included the civic engagement project being discussed at Lower Grignon Park.

**Other Business**

Engels indicated that two (2) third-grade classes, totaling 48 students from Park Community Charter School, visited the mansion for a field trip to the blacksmith shop. De La Paz provided a blacksmith demonstration, which went very well.

**Set Next Meeting Date and Location**

Monday, November 16, 2026 at 4:30 p.m. in the Hydro View Room

**Adjournment**

Motion by Werschem to adjourn, seconded by Hansen, Motion unanimously approved with meeting adjourned at 5:23 p.m.