

AGENDA
Minnetonka Community Commission
Monday, January 12, 2009
Oak Knoll Room
Minnetonka Community Center

1. Roll Call
David Hakensen, Eduardo Jimenez, Betty Johnson, Michael Kelly, Paul Kobs, Laura Stotts Gorans, Paul Thyren, Anne VanHorne, Barb Westmoreland, Courtney Wieden, Melissa Williamson-Herren

2. Discussion Items
 - A. Items for approval
 - November 24, 2008, meeting minutes
 - 2008 Annual Report

 - B. New business
 - Welcome new member Betty Johnson
 - Landmark designation program

 - C. Kids' Fest: February 8, 2009
 - Minnetonka Reads
 - Hennepin County Library
 - Other activities?
 - Volunteers

 - D. Twin West Community Connections
 - February 12, 7:30-9 a.m., Ridgedale

 - E. Community Action Recognition Award
 - Application

 - F. Discuss joint meeting with City Council
 - Monday, Feb. 2, 6:30-7 p.m., Boards and Commissions

3. Adjourn

Next meeting: Monday, March 30, 2009

Minutes
Minnetonka Community Commission
Meeting of November 24, 2008

1. Roll Call

Commission members present: David Hakensen, Eduardo Jimenez, Michael Kelly, Paul Kobs, Laura Stotts Gorans, Paul Thyren, Anne VanHorne, Barb Westmoreland, Courtney Wieden, Melissa Williamson-Herren

Commission members absent: Suraj Kurtakoti

Staff: Jacque Larson

Chair Hakensen called the meeting to order at 6:36 p.m.

2. Discussion Items

a. Review meeting minutes

Kelly moved, Kobs seconded the motion to approve the meeting minutes of September 29, 2008.

b. Staff Report

Larson answered questions that commission members had asked at the Sept. 29 meeting:

- Do city receptionists hand out welcome materials to new residents?
 - The receptionists said they rarely hand out paper packets, instead they direct new residents to the city Web site for information.
- Does the city require rental permits?
 - According to community development staff, no, the city does not require rental permits.
 - A follow-up question: Does the city fire marshal have to inspect properties used for rental?
- Does the police department hand out community resource information to people who might need out (for ex: food shelf or battered women's shelter info)
 - Yes, police officers carry information with them on patrol.

c. Minnetonka Reads logos

Commission members viewed several different logo designs submitted by a graphic designer, and chose #2, with the following modifications to be made: take away the heart on the book, and add rounded instead of jagged hands. Staff will have these

changes made, then email final logo to commission members for approval.

d. Reflections Award applications

Two nominations were received for the 2009 Reflections Award:

- Jerry Greene, EverGreene Jewelers
- Deanne Roberg, Deanne's Dance Studio

The commission members discussed each nominee in depth, and heard from some members who had personal positive experiences with either EverGreene or with Deanne's.

Commission members voted on whether or not enough quality applications had been received in order to choose one for the award. Five voted yes (Jimenez, Stotts Gorans, VanHorne, Thyren, Williamson-Herren) and two voted no (Thyren, Hakensen). Westmoreland, Kelly and Wieden excused themselves from voting due to personal interactions with the nominees.

Members then voted on which nominee should receive the award, with four voting for EverGreene (Williamson-Herren, Thyren, VanHorne and Stotts Gorans); one voting for Deanne's (Jimenez); and two abstaining (Thyren, Hakensen). Westmoreland, Kelly and Wieden recused themselves from voting due to personal interactions with the nominees.

Staff will contact EverGreene Jewelers to arrange a council meeting date at which to receive the award, and will inform the commission members of the award presentation date.

e. Minnetonka History Commission

Staff explained that the Minnetonka History Commission had voted at a recent meeting to reorganize history activities, which includes repealing the ordinance that created the history commission itself. Staff said that a person with a particular interest in history – most likely Betty Johnson, official city historian – would be joining the community commission to ensure that the historical aspect of the city's heritage is remembered. In addition, the community commission would be asked to take on the Landmark Designation program, previously handled by the commission. The proposal will be heard by the city council in December, after which staff will have more information for the commission.

f. 2009

Staff said that six commission members would be re-appointed for a second term: David Hakensen, Paul Thyren, Anne VanHorne,

Barb Westmoreland, Courtney Wieden and Melissa Williamson-Herren.

Staff asked commission members for ideas for 2009 goals to be included in the 2008 annual report to the city council, which details the community commission activities over the past year and outlines its plan for the future year.

The following suggestions were received:

- Hold a joint session with the city council to report on what the community commission has accomplished (where we're at, where we're going).
- Invite members of fraternal organizations to visit and talk about their needs.
- Consider the possibility of starting a community foundation, similar to what other cities like Plymouth, Eden Prairie, and Wayzata have. The foundation would raise and give money to community organizations.
- Invite representatives of the three school districts to visit.
- Revise churches. Send a letter to each church from the commission asking about their outreach in the community. Ask how they contribute to Minnetonka specifically.
- Identify what social nonprofit groups are present in Minnetonka.
- Connect with a rental group.

Thyren stated that he wants to address community needs tangibly and allow commission members to wrap themselves emotionally around things. He needs the satisfaction of helping someone make a difference to someone else.

Jimenez said he is still very interested in creating a welcome packet for rental communities.

3. Adjourn

VanHorne moved; Stotts Gorans seconded the motion to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jacque Larson
Community Relations Manager

2008 Annual Report Community Commission

Mission

The community commission was established by the Minnetonka City Council in February 2007 with the primary responsibility of fostering partnerships that encourage community engagement.

Membership

To the extent possible, the commission is to include representatives of local school districts, the business community, youth (under 18), community and faith organizations, the rental community, and ethnic/immigrant populations. Each member will serve a two-year term.

While the commission reached its full complement of 12 members early this year, by the end of the year the commission lost two members: Robbie Rosenthal, who left for college out of state, and Suraj Kurtakoti, who resigned due to increased work responsibilities. In early 2009 the council appointed Betty Johnson, official city historian, to the commission, leaving just one vacancy to be filled.

2008 Officers were: David Hakensen (Chair) and Melissa Williamson-Herren (Vice Chair).

2008 Attendance Schedule

| Member | Kids' Fest | | | | | SF/ICS | Open House | | | | | | |
|-------------------|------------|------------|-----|-----|-----|------------|------------|------|-----|------|-----|------------|-----|
| | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | | June | July | Aug | Sept | Oct | Nov | Dec |
| Hakensen | Y | No meeting | Y | Y | Y | No meeting | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | No meeting | |
| Jimenez | Y | | Y | Y | N | | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | | |
| Kelly | Y | | Y | Y | Y | | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | | Y |
| Kobs | | | Y | N | Y | | Y | N | Y | Y | N | | Y |
| Kurtakoti | | | N | Y | N | | N | Y | Y | N | Y | | N |
| Rosenthal | Y | | Y | N | Y | | N | N | N | N | | | |
| Stotts Gorans | N | | Y | Y | N | | Y | Y | | Y | N | | Y |
| Thyren | Y | | Y | Y | Y | | N | N | Y | Y | N | | Y |
| VanHorne | Y | | N | Y | N | | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | | Y |
| Westmoreland | Y | | N | Y | N | | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | | Y |
| Wieden | Y | | Y | Y | Y | | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | | Y |
| Williamson-Herren | Y | | | Y | Y | | N | | Y | Y | Y | | Y |

Y = Present; N = Absent;

In addition to regular meetings during 2008, commission members hosted a community reading event at Kids' Fest and a photo contest display at the October Fire Department and City-Wide Open House.

Highlights of the Past Year

- The commission achieved its full complement of members during early 2008.

- In cooperation with Hennepin County Library, the commission hosted a community reading initiative around the book “Ruby Lu: Empress of Everything,” to bring to the forefront issues of diversity. This effort included:
 - Hosting a book club event on a Saturday, April 12, 2008, at Ridgedale Library, where children gathered together to discuss the book, and enjoy Asian snacks. Children also placed small stickers on countries of a world map to represent their heritage. Approximately 25 children participated.
 - Free copies of the book were given away at Kids’ Fest, where children and their families were also invited to talk about their heritage on videotape. The tape was later incorporated into a promotional video for the Kids’ Fest event. About 30 children and their families were videotaped.

- In April, the commission welcomed two guest speakers in an effort to learn more about the various aspects of the community: Pastor Howard Krienke of the Hopkins Ministerial Association, and JoAnne Robinson and Krista Danner of Minnetonka Heights/Ridgedale YMCA.

- In May, commission members toured the ICA food shelf to familiarize themselves with some of the hidden needs of the community.

- Commission Chair David Hakensen began making business visits with an initial conversation with Cargill Director of Community Involvement D. Tomme Beevas.

- In partnership with Hennepin County Library, the commission began laying plans for a third community reading initiative in 2009 around the book “Home of the Brave” by Katherine Applegate. This community reading effort will include a visit by the author in May 2009.

- Commission members hosted a 2008 Minnetonka photo contest display and information about the community commission at the October Fire Department and City-Wide Open House; and judged and awarded prizes in the photo contest.

- The commission solicited applications for the 2009 Reflections Award, then reviewed the applications and chose an award winner, to be recognized at a January 2009 meeting of the Minnetonka City Council.

- The commission agreed to take on a few history-related duties after the city reorganized its history activities, including designating one member with a historical interest in the community and taking over the landmark designation program.

Goals

The commission’s goals for 2009 are to:

1. Meet jointly with the city council to provide information on the commission’s accomplishments and to understand the council’s expectations.
2. Invite members of the city’s fraternal organizations and not-for-profit service providers to visit the commission and provide information about their mission, members and activities; and to provide input on perceived community needs.
3. Continue outreach to the faith community, including asking for information about the type of community outreach that is provided.

Minnetonka Landmarks

❖ 13209 East McGinty Road
Charles H. Burwell Workshop

❖ Purgatory Park

Twin City Transit Co. Street Car Line

❖ 5216 Mayview Road
French Eclectic Home

❖ 17225 Manor Road
Victorian Teahouse

❖ 3841 Baker Road
Rittenhouse Property

❖ 3616 Tonkawood Road
Rogers-Schumacher-Rosberg Home

❖ 4347 Fairview Avenue
Patterson Addition

❖ 3333 Highway 101
Ty Abel Corner

❖ 3304 Bridge Street
Martin Giesen Home

❖ 5439 Highway 101
Norris Caretaker Residence

❖ 16801 Excelsior Blvd.
Hladky House

❖ 13209 East McGinty Road
Charles H. Burwell House

Need an application?

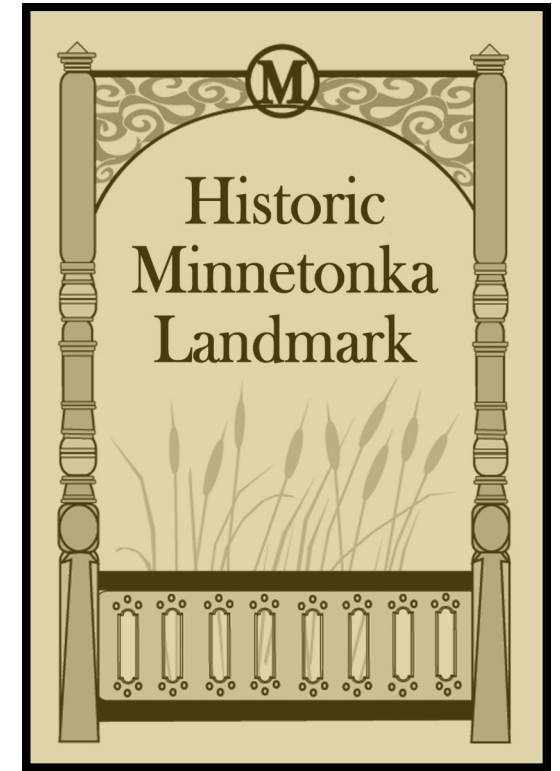
Contact: Laura Ronbeck
952.939.8219



2008

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14600 Minnetonka Blvd.
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Historic Minnetonka

A landmark
recognition
program

Landmark Recognition Program

What is it?



Landmarks can also be objects

The Landmark Recognition Program was established to recognize and honor significant buildings and places within the City of Minnetonka.

The program celebrates our proud past. It encourages voluntary preservation of our local landmarks so they can be enjoyed by current residents and visitors as well as future generations.

What is the process?

Buildings, structures, objects, and sites may be nominated as a landmark by the owner or by another person or agency through the application process. If a nomination is made by someone other than the owner, the city will promptly advise the property owner of the application. Nominations not supported by the owner will be withdrawn. Nomination forms are available from the City of Minnetonka.

When are designations made?

Properties can be designated at any time. Landmarks are recognized with plaques in city facilities and the owners also receive a plaque as shown on this brochure's cover.

What qualifies as a landmark?

A landmark can be a residential or commercial building, structure, site, object, or an area which reflects elements of Minnetonka's cultural, social, economic, political or architectural history. Preference is given to landmarks at least 50 years of age.



Victorian Teahouse

Who determines which nominations become landmarks?

The Minnetonka History Commission is the lead agency in administering the landmark



French eclectic cottage style

program. Once they determine that a nomination merits designation, the landmark will be acknowledged by the city council.

What is the effect of designation?

Owners must notify the City of Minnetonka if the landmark will be significantly altered. Written notice is required 30 days prior to the planned action. In the case of real estate, the notice will be given by virtue of applying for a permit from the City of Minnetonka.

If there are major alterations that significantly affect the integrity of the landmark, the designation may be voided.

KIDS' FEST

February 8, 2008 1:00-5:00pm Minnetonka Community Center

ACTIVITY SCHEDULE

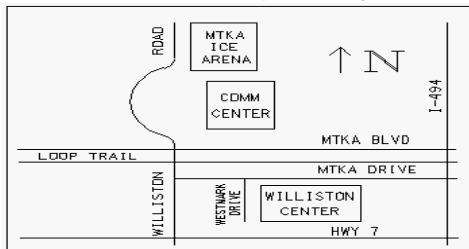
- 1 – 2:15 p.m. Dog sled rides (*first come, first served*)
- 1 – 2 p.m. Amazing Nathan (*strolling magician*)
Open Batting Cage (grades 4 and up) – *Williston Center*
- 1 – 4 p.m. Shady Oak Beach Season Pass Sales
Early Childhood Sensory Activities (Hopkins ECCE)
- 1 – 4:30 p.m. Concession Sales
Bonfire and S'mores
- 1 – 4 p.m. Marvelous Mask making with The Minnetonka Center for the Arts staff
Reptile and Amphibian display
- 1 – 5 p.m. Face Painting
Ice Carving Demonstrations
Dance Instruction – hip-hop and creative movement
Wheat grass garden creations and bread from Great Harvest
Hennepin County Library display
"Minnetonka Reads" activity ~~featuring Home of the Brave author Katherine Applegate~~
- 1:15 – 2:00 p.m. The Woodland Puppets performance
- 2:00 & 3:00 p.m. Snow Shoe Nature Walk - A limited amount of snow shoes will be available. The walk will leave from the Minnetonka Community Center.
- 2 – 4 p.m. Open Swimming – *Williston Center*
Strolling Characters
- 2:15 – 3 p.m. Amazing Nathan (*Magic Show*)
- 2:30 - 4:30 p.m. Ice Skating/Skate Rental – *Minnetonka Ice Arena*
- 3 – 4 p.m. Amazing Nathan (*strolling magician*)
- 3:15 – 5 p.m. Dog Sled Rides (*first come, first served*)
- 3:15 – 4 p.m. Wonderful World of Woody – music, magic and juggling show
- 4:15 – 5 p.m. Bingo – win great prizes!

ALL PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES ARE FREE!

For more information: (952) 939-8203 or www.eminnetonka.com

Please Bring Canned Goods to help our area families in need. Collections will be received at the Minnetonka Community Center. Activities and performances are subject to change without notice.

Free Van Trips Every 15 Minutes to and from the Minnetonka Community Center, Ice Arena, and the Williston Fitness Center.



**Minnetonka
Community Center
14600 Minnetonka Blvd.**

**Thank you for your support of Hopkins-
Minnetonka Recreation Services and
the Community History Commission.**