

**Minutes
Minnetonka Community Commission
Meeting of November 30, 2009**

1. Roll Call

Commission members present: Paul Ansolabehere, David Hakensen, Betty Johnson, Michael Kelly, Melissa Williamson-Herren

Commission members absent: Eduardo Jimenez, Paul Kobs, Marli Komarek, Paul Thyren, Barb Westmoreland

Staff: Jacque Larson

Chair Hakensen called the meeting to order at 6:39 p.m.

2. Discussion Items

A. Commission Member Update

- New member introduction
Due to illness, new member Marli Komarek was unable to attend the meeting. Larson shared some information about Marli's background with the commission members present.
- Departing members
The two-year terms of Paul Kobs and Eduardo Jimenez end in January, and they have declined re-appointment to the commission due to work commitments.
- Members reapplying for another term
Paul Ansolabehere, Betty Johnson and Michael Kelly have indicated their interest in appointment to another two-year term on the commission.

B. Meeting Minutes: September 28, 2009

Kelly moved, Williamson-Herren seconded, all voted to accept the minutes of September 28, 2009.

C. Report from Commission Members

Hakensen reported that many people stopped by the photo contest exhibit at the Open House event in October and enjoyed looking at the photos.

Johnson suggested next year having a place on the photo entry form to state where the photo was taken.

Ansolabehere suggested having local establishments post the photos, such as restaurants, retirement homes, library) in order to build

awareness of the city as well as the photo contest, and to help community to residents that Minnetonka is a great place to be. Williamson-Herren suggested an empty storefront at Ridgedale might be a good place for the photo display.

Kelly said he'd like to see a higher presence of community commission members at the 2010 farmers' market, for example, helping at the information booth.

Johnson reported that she recently gave a history presentation to the Society of Mayflower Descendants, using Minnetonka as an example of technological advances (railroads, highways, streetcars). She said it worked well for this group of adults, and couple be put in the context of where they live.

Ansolabehere suggest hosting book clubs through eblogs. People who can't attend a book club could do so instead through a blog they can visit on their own time. He asked what would be the best venue for clubs to get noticed by the city – for example a cribbage club that meets weekly at the Gold Nugget. He suggested that the city considering listing all city clubs and organizations on its Web site.

Williamson-Herren asked that the commission remember its discussion about refining criteria for the Reflections Award, and consider that a goal for 2010. She suggested a limerick contest for Kids' Fest.

D. Neighborhood Initiative Update

With the departure of Paul Kobs from the commission, Michael Kelly offered to chair the neighborhood initiative subcommittee. Williamson-Herren suggested moving this committee back into the commission. She suggested setting a goal for the number of activities offered as part of this initiative.

E. Kids' Fest

Commission members discussed various activities for Kids' Fest – Williamson-Herren suggested a limerick contest. Staff will follow up to find a poet who could lead an activity, as well as following up with Hennepin County Library regarding interest in the reading partnership.

F. City sponsorship policy

Larson shared with the commission the sponsorship policy approved by the council earlier this fall, and said she would share further developments with the commission.

G. 2009 Annual Report

The commission reviewed the annual report and suggested three goals for 2010. Staff will complete the report and submit it to council.

H. Upcoming meetings

Commission members received a schedule of meetings and special events for 2010.

3. Adjourn

Ansolabehere moved, Kelly seconded the motion to adjourn. Meeting concluded at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jacque Larson
Community Relations Manager