

**Minutes**  
**Minnetonka Community Commission**  
**Meeting of January 24, 2011**

**1. Roll Call**

Commission members present: Paul Ansolabehere (*arrived 7:25 p.m.*), David Hakensen (chair), Betty Johnson, Michael Kelly, Heather Odland (vice-chair), David Simon, Lucie Taylor, Barb Westmoreland, Melissa Williamson-Herren

Commission members absent: Priscille Biehlmann, Marli Komarek, Paul Thyren, Melissa Williamson-Herren

Staff: Jacque Larson

Chair Hakensen called the meeting to order at 6:44 p.m.

**2. Discussion Items**

**A. Approval of Minutes**

Taylor moved, Kelly seconded a motion to approve the minutes as presented for November 29, 2010. All voted in favor.

**B. Election of 2011 Officers**

Hakensen moved, Kelly seconded a motion to nominate Odland as chair and Taylor as vice-chair. All voted in favor.

**C. Commission Member Check-In**

Taylor reported that she was meeting with the children's librarian at Ridgedale Library in early February to discuss book choices for the next community reading initiative. She expects the kickoff for this initiative to take place at Kids' Fest 2012.

Hakensen commented on the Reflections Award presentation that was held at the January 10 city council meeting, with a great turnout by supporters of the award winners. Larson suggested a cake and coffee reception be held prior to the awards ceremony for the next Reflections Award presentation in 2013.

**D. 2010 Annual Report**

Members reviewed the final 2010 Annual Report of the commission's activities. Taylor commented that two of her absences in 2010 were due to being out of town for family commitments.

**E. 2011 Meeting Schedule**

The commission members reviewed the 2011 meeting schedule.

## **F. Community Days of Service**

Larson reported that she attended the January 12 meeting held by organizing churches/synagogues for the 2011 Community Days of Service, slated for May 21-22.

The commission engaged in much discussion regarding how they might encourage and recognize volunteerism and community service among Minnetonka residents. Ideas included:

- Encouraging volunteers to assist with digging holes for trees sold at the spring city tree sale.
- Featuring people who are volunteering in city publications.
- Revamping existing awards, such as the Community Action Recognition awards, to more prominently recognize community volunteers. This may involve renaming the award to include the word "volunteer."
- Creating a new awards program that recognizes volunteers in various age categories, from high school and up.
- Tracking the amount of hours Minnetonka residents volunteer in a certain time period (day, month or year) and publicize that amount in a temperature-like graphic, similar to fundraisers.
- Helping serve as a clearinghouse for volunteer opportunities by publicizing organizations that need assistance.
- Having a competition between Minnetonka and other cities to see whose residents can volunteer more, with mayors placing bets (similar to Super Bowl bets made by mayors of competing cities) on outcome.

## **G. Upcoming Projects**

- **Calendar**  
A working group will be formed at the February meeting, when new members join, to move this project forward.
- **Community Reads**  
Taylor reported earlier in the meeting that she is meeting with Ridgedale Library in February on this project. A working group will be formed at the February meeting, when new members join, to move this project forward.

## **H. Recognition of outgoing commission members: Jan. 31, 6:30 p.m.**

Commission members are invited to attend the council meeting Jan. 31 at 6:30 p.m., where departing commission members Hakensen, Thyren, Westmoreland and Williamson-Herren will be recognized.

Taylor commented that she appreciated the time these departing commission members have given to the city, and the knowledge they have shared with the remaining commission members.

**I. Next meeting: February 28, 6:30 p.m.**

Kelly indicated he would not be present at this meeting.

**3. Adjourn**

Westmoreland moved, Johnson seconded a motion to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jacque Larson  
Community Relations Manager