

AGENDA
Minnetonka Community Commission
Monday, May 23, 2011, 6:30 p.m.
Shady Oak Room
Minnetonka City Hall

1. Roll Call
Paul Ansolabehere, Priscille Biehlmann, Bruce Gefvert, Betty Johnson, Michael Kelly, Marli Komarek, Jay Mega, Jr., Tammy Nelson, Heather Odland (chair), David Simon, Naomi Stock, Lucie Taylor (vice-chair)
2. Discussion Items
 - A. Approval of Minutes
 - April 25, 2011
 - B. Community commission goals
 - City strategic profile
 - List of city events
 - C. Minnetonka Reads update
 - D. Volunteers for ice cream social (June 25)
 - E. Next meeting: July 25, 6:30 p.m.
3. Adjourn

Minutes
Minnetonka Community Commission
Meeting of April 25, 2011

1. Roll Call

Commission members present: Paul Ansolabehere, Priscille Biehlmann, Bruce Gefvert, Betty Johnson, Michael Kelly, Jay Mega, Jr., Tammy Nelson, Naomi Stock, Lucie Taylor (vice-chair)

Commission members absent: Marli Komarek, David Simon

Staff: Jacque Larson

Vice Chair Taylor called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

[Chair Heather Odland arrived 6:55 p.m.]

2. Discussion Items

A. Approval of March 28, 2011, minutes

Nelson moved, Kelly seconded a motion to approve the minutes as written. All voted in favor.

B. Commission member check-in

Johnson said she is conducting a one-hour tour of Minnetonka with the Burwell tour guides in May. She has also been involved in school presentations related to the Burwell House.

Biehlmann said she is compiling elections history of Minnetonka, starting in 1957. The history will include voter statistics and turnout, with some history sprinkled throughout.

- Nelson suggested the city let schools know of this resource once it's finished, and that it could be announced in the city newsletter.

C. Minnetonka Reads

Taylor reported this program would be launched in 2012, after school is out but before Summer Festival. She also suggested that we recognize Hennepin County Library staff for the work they are doing on this program.

Stock said she is contacting people at the University of Minnesota International Center for possible tie-ins to the book.

Taylor asked if we would need permission to use the book cover art in promotional materials.

Kelly asked if perhaps the book could be performed in skit form by drama groups from Hopkins or Minnetonka.

Minnetonka Memo will include information about all events.

Nelson said a PR/communications plan should be developed.

Taylor left at 7:05 p.m.

D. Sister City Program

Mega said he spent time looking at three Sister City programs, in Bloomington, Columbia Heights and Shoreview. He is attending a conference in Minneapolis on April 30. At the next meeting he will have more information.

Mega said this can be a huge undertaking that needs funding.

Ansolabehere moved, Stock seconded a motion to form a subcommittee with Mega as chair. All voted in favor.

E. Photo Contest

Nelson, Gefvert and Biehlmann met after the last meeting. They thought a survey should be done with the next photo contest, asking people what the city should do with the photos.

They would like to go to events to talk about the community commission and would like to create a pop-up banner to draw attention to the commission.

F. Local Business Promotion

There was some discussion about how to promote local businesses.

Ansolabehere moved, Gefvert seconded a motion to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Mission

Our purpose is to provide the core public services our community residents and businesses rely upon in their daily lives, while striving to preserve and enhance the distinctive character that makes Minnetonka a special place to live.

Vision

External: Minnetonka will be the community of choice where people live, work, play and conduct business in a naturally beautiful environment.

Internal: Our dedicated employees will deliver dependable, quality services with a positive, helpful attitude to those who live, work, play and conduct business in Minnetonka.

Guiding Principles

- We will focus on excellent customer service by striving to do the right thing, at the right time, for the right reason to meet the needs of our customers.
- We will set the standard for innovative leadership by forging collaborative partnerships, adopting new technologies and promoting effective service delivery.
- We will foster open and inclusive communication to encourage community involvement, and to maintain the trust and respect of those we serve.
- We will live our shared values of authentic communication, contagious enthusiasm, shared success, outcome focused teamwork, adaptable learning and innovation, and healthy human relationships.

Goals + Strategies

We will be responsible stewards of the city's physical assets, human capital and financial resources by:

- Providing good value for the dollars entrusted to us.
- Managing for the long-term to ensure the city's ongoing ability to provide quality services at a reasonable price.
- Sustaining core services and continuing infrastructure investments, while living within our means.

We will protect and enhance the unique natural environment of our community by:

- Carefully balancing growth and development with preservation efforts that protect the highly valued water and woodland resources of our community.
- Developing and implementing realistic long-term plans to mitigate threats to water quality, urban forests, and the unique natural character of Minnetonka.
- Taking an active role in promoting energy and water conservation, sustainable operations and infrastructure, recycling and environmental stewardship.

We will maintain quality public safety for our residents and businesses by:

- Implementing appropriate recommendations in the Public Safety Management and Operations Study to address the evolving police, fire and emergency service needs of our community, including an aging and more diverse population.
- Providing seamless, coordinated and integrated public safety services through common protocols and shared practices among departments and personnel.
- Leading collaborative efforts with other agencies to cost-effectively provide quality public safety services, with an emphasis on coordinated technology, equipment and programs.

We will work to meet the transportation needs of our residents and businesses by:

- Providing and preserving a quality local street system, based on a financially sustainable plan for reconstruction and ongoing maintenance.
- Collaborating with our state, regional and local partners in the timely development of shared highways and streets.
- Actively participating in regional light rail planning and development to ensure that community needs and interests are served.
- Pursuing shared sub-regional transit solutions with neighboring communities to improve service within the area.

We will support well-planned, responsible community development by:

- Carefully balancing individual property rights with community-wide interests, while respecting the unique character of Minnetonka's neighborhoods.
- Initiating programs and policies that broaden housing choices to both meet the needs of our aging population and attract young residents.
- Actively promoting the vitality of designated village centers, which integrate uses and connect people to commercial, residential, employment, and public activities.
- Supporting business retention and expansion and attracting new businesses to help our private sector be economically competitive.

We will provide excellent recreational amenities by:

- Offering a full range of programs for people of all ages and ability levels.
- Responsibly maintaining our parks, trails and recreational facilities, while fairly balancing user fees with general community support.
- Renewing, expanding and maintaining a trail system to encourage outdoor recreation, and improve the connectivity and walkability of our community.

City-sponsored opportunities for community involvement

Events

- Kids' Fest
- Home Remodeling Fair
- State of the City
- Eggstravaganza
- Native Plant Market and Eco Fun Fest
- Summer Festival
- Burwell House Ice Cream Social
- Fall Family Festival
- Farmers' Market
- Music in the Park
- Theater in the Park
- Minnetonka Night for Neighbors
 - Coloring Contest (ride to school with the police chief)
- Fire Department and City Open House

Civic Education

- Citizen Academy
- Police Citizen Academy
- Burwell House school presentations/tours
- Elections

Natural Resources Education

- Garlic Mustard classes
- Buckthorn classes
- Tree planting workshops
- Plant walks
- Bird walks
- Water Health Evaluation Program

Community Outreach

- Caring Youth
- Awards programs (Reflections, Community Action Recognition)
- What If?
- City newsletter
- City website
- Recreation brochure
- Senior Services newsletter

Activities

- Minnehaha Creek Canoe program
- Recreation Services
 - Music Association of Minnetonka

- Minnehaha Creek Canoe Program
- Youth/adult sports
- Playground programs
- Garden plots
- Senior Services
 - The Landing Shop
- Burwell House tours
- Music Association of Minnetonka
- Shady Oak Beach
- Photo contest
- Williston Fitness Center
- Rain barrel/compost bin ordering

Services (beyond regular city services)

- Tree sale
- Hazardous Waste Drop Off
- Spring/Fall Leaf Drop-Off
- Special Drop-Off events
- Tree pruning drop-off
- Mulch pickup
- Kids' Corner

Volunteer Opportunities

- Natural Resources
- Burwell House tours/school program/Ice Cream Social
- Senior Center
 - The Landing Shop
 - Various program leaders
- Recreation Services
 - outdoor ice rinks
 - summer junior leader program
 - coaching
- Farmers' Market
- Police Explorers
- Police Reserves
- Neighborhood Watch captains
- Event photography
- Adopt a sign
- Elections
- Ad hoc (as requested)
 - Current intern assisting with historical election results
 - Minnetonka High School annual senior service days

Business Outreach

- Open to Business

- TwinWest Chamber of Commerce membership/participation
- Sponsorship program

Partnerships

- Lake Minnetonka Figure Skating Club (annual ice show)
- Three Rivers Park District
- Eden Prairie Community Education (natural resources classes)
- City of Hopkins
 - Recreation services
 - Caring Youth
- City of Golden Valley
 - Caring Youth
- Hopkins and Minnetonka School Districts
 - Caring Youth
 - Theater in the Park
- Hennepin County
 - waste drop offs, recycling
 - Glen Lake Golf Course skiing
 - Equipment bays at Public Works
- Commuter Services
- Minnehaha Creek Watershed District
- Nine Mile Creek Watershed District
- Minnetonka Historical Society
 - Victorian Holiday Tea (Burwell)
 - Burwell Museum
 - Fall/Spring presentations