

**Minutes**  
**Minnetonka Community Heritage Commission**  
**Meeting of September 18, 2006**

**1. Roll Call**

Commission members present: Jenna Burfeind, David Hakensen, Dewey Hassig, Betty Johnson, David Olson, Joe Van Sloun

Commission members excused: Joan George

Staff: Laura Ronbeck, Jacque Larson

Chair Van Sloun called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

**2. Discussion Items:**

**a. Minutes**

Olson moved, Hakensen seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the August 14, 2006, community heritage commission meeting. All voted "yes." Motion carried.

**b. Landmark Recognition application**

The community heritage commission received an Landmark Recognition application from Joyce C. Block for property located at 13705 Minnetonka Drive. Chair Van Sloun asked for discussion of the application.

Van Sloun observed the home looks newer than many submitted for Landmark Recognition. Hassig said the windows looked too modern, and also mentioned the turbine fences on the roof as modern touches.

Olson said that the Tudor style, which the applicant indicated this house was an example of, had a roofline of 45 degrees, but this house did not seem to meet that criteria. Olson also mentioned this home sits on property that was part of the original Minnetonka Mills Acres development, with one- and five-acre lots sold in the early 1900s. Olson provided a half-section map showing the boundaries of the property, which had not been submitted with the application.

Staff reminded commission members that the Landmark Recognition program was developed to foster pride in Minnetonka's history and interest in preserving older homes – not as a strict architectural review board or historical preservation effort.

Hakensen moved, Bloom seconded a motion to approve the Landmark Recognition application. Burfeind, Bloom, Van Sloun, and Hakensen voted "yes." Hassig and Olson voted "no." Johnson abstained. Motion carried.

Hakensen would like to see the applicant, who indicates she continues to conduct research on the history of the home, present that information at a later date to the commission.

The Landmark Recognition application will now be submitted to the Minnetonka City Council for final approval, with copies to the planning commission and Minnetonka Historical Society. Staff will handle this process.

c. **Open House activity**

Staff provided an overview of planned activities at the Oct. 10 Open House.

d. **Discuss Nov. 28 Charlene Roise workshop**

Commission members agreed this is to be a presentation, not a workshop. Hakensen reiterated the purpose of the meeting is to raise awareness of the Community Heritage Commission. Van Sloun will provide opening remarks that evening, with key messages to include Minnetonka's history of thoughtful development. Staff will write remarks for Van Sloun's approval.

Staff indicated an interest in inviting planning staff from other cities, especially first-ring suburbs. Commission members agreed this was a good idea. Hakensen will research names of local experts in suburban development as possible invitees.

Displays at the presentation will include the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary timeline; and Landmark Program framed photos, brochures and applications. Coffee and cookies will be served.

Publicity will include mailed invitations (RSVP requested) and publication in the city newsletter, Web site, cable channel, newspapers, etc. Van Sloun will announce the presentation at the next general meeting of the Minnetonka Historical Society, and will look into publication in the Mill Wheel.

e. **Discuss holding October meeting**

Commission members agreed to cancel the Nov. 27, 2006, meeting of the CHC and replace it with a meeting October 16, 2006. At this meeting, final details for the Charlene Roise presentation will be

discussed as well as year-end goals and a Landmark Recognition application from Olson (who will be absent from this meeting).

Staff will prepare notice of cancelled/rescheduled meeting.

**3. Other business**

Van Sloun informed the commission that Fred Clark resigned from the commission effective Sept. 12, 2006, due to the fact that he is now a Minneapolis resident. The position will remain open until January, when the council will conduct interviews for all open board and commission seats.

Johnson summarized her recent meeting with Terry Weise, superintendent of the Hennepin County Home School in Minnetonka. Johnson and Weise met to discuss the 100-year history of the school, and Johnson took away many documents to photocopy for her records. Van Sloun mentioned Weise might be a good speaker to invite to a Minnetonka Historical Society meeting.

Olson mentioned the Glen Lake Elementary School fourth-grade students will visit the Burwell House in May 2007 as part of their curriculum. Glen Lake had not previously participated in the Burwell House school program.

**4. Adjournment**

Johnson moved, Hakensen seconded a motion to adjourn. All voted "yes." Meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Ronbeck  
Administrative Projects Specialist