

# **The Minnesota Streetcar Museum**

## **Minutes**

Board of Directors Meeting  
October 18, 2008  
Excelsior Streetcar Line Car barn  
Excelsior, Minnesota

Present: Board Members Dave French, Jim Vaitkunas, Aaron Isaacs, Scott Heiderich, Bob Johnson, Darel Leipold (arrived late); General Superintendent Rod Eaton; Members Ken Albrecht, John Prestholdt, Tom Fairbairn.

The meeting was called to order at 9:07 AM by Chair Dave French.

A motion was presented by Jim Vaitkunas to permit him to purchase a fireproof file, to be located in the Como-Harriet car barn. This file will be used to store key Museum documents. The motion was approved with little discussion.

Rod Eaton agreed to act as recording secretary for the meeting.

Scott Heiderich presented the Treasurer's report (copy attached). Scott moved to add the Jim Vaitkunas, Dave French and Louis Hoffman to that of Scott Heiderich to our new account at U.S. Federal Credit Union. The motion was approved. Scott also moved that \$5,500 be moved from Unrestricted Funds to the Winona #10 Restoration Account to cover current cost overages on the project. The motion was approved.

Rod Eaton presented a brief Superintendent's report. We enjoyed a good and profitable summer season with few mechanical issues. Rod mentioned the upcoming Ghost Trolley, Pumpkin Patch, and Holly Trolley events.

The 2009 Annual Meeting was discussed. It was decided the meeting would again be held on a week night and that we would ask Kay Kullberg about the cost and availability of her church as a meeting location.

Bob Johnson reported that the Excelsior Downtown Business Group has asked the Minnesota Streetcar Museum to appoint a member to represent us on the Business Group's Christmas Market. Bob will consider who that person might be. It was also agreed that the Museum would sponsor the 2008 Christmas Market at the \$250 level.

The issue of membership and recruiting was raised, and it was decided that would be the focus of our Winter Planning Meeting. Aaron Isaacs said he will investigate the possibility of using people from Sentenced to Serve for maintenance work at both lines.

Aaron Isaacs reported on the progress of the Como-Harriet car barn sprinkler project. The piping has been installed and a contractor selected to grade the east side of the building. However, we need to apply for additional permits with the City of Minneapolis before we can proceed. We

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will also most likely need to address the issue of rain runoff from any building additions we make. We probably have enough money remaining in the Sprinkler Fund to complete the project -- install the water and sewer lines.

Our next fund raising appeal was discussed. It was decided that our main focus would be the expansion of the Como-Harriet carbarn. In mailings, we will also give donors the choice to direct gifts to Winona #10 and the General Account. Aaron Isaacs hopes to raise \$10,000 (in two grants) to cover the anticipated costs for continuing restoration of Winona #10 over the next year.

Ken Albrecht reported on the status of the restoration of Winona #10. Ken, Jim Willmore, and John Prestholdt are sharing the responsibilities of heading the restoration effort, with John being designated as the Board's liaison. Ken stated that, in many ways, the slow, purposeful approach to the project has saved more time than it's wasted, and also saved considerable money. He outlined some of the next steps, but was critical of the lack of proper tools and space in the Excelsior carbarn. He strongly feels we should have one good restoration facility instead of two poor ones.

Following Ken's presentation, it was decided to move an additional \$10,000 from Unrestricted Funds into the Winona #10 Restoration Account to cover the next year's anticipated expenses. It is hoped that this money will be repaid to the Unrestricted Fund with grants.

The next meeting of the Board of Directors is set for the second Saturday in January.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM.

Submitted by:

*Rodney I. Eaton*

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*Acting Secretary*