

The Minnesota Streetcar Museum

DRAFT MINUTES

**Board of Directors meeting
9:00 a.m., Saturday, August 12, 2006
George K. Isaacs Car barn and Shops
Minneapolis, Minnesota**

Attendance:

Present:

Keith Anderson, Chief Engineering Officer
Rod Eaton, General Superintendent
Dave French, Director
Scott Heiderich, Director
Louis Hoffman, Director
Bob Johnson, Director
Jim Vaitkunas, Director

Absent:

Bill Arends, Director

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chair Jim Vaitkunas at 9:07 a.m.

Approval of Agenda. The agenda was discussed and approved with the following items added:

- Ratification of submission of Annual Report to the Attorney General.
- Participation in the Midwest Open Air Museum Coordinating Committee.
- Possible acquisition of Mesaba No. 16 and relationship with the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board.

Approval of minutes. The minutes of the May 13, 2006 Board of Directors meeting were approved.

Confirmation of approval of contract with Silent Knight Company. The electronic vote approving the contract with the Silent Knight Company to install water service and a security and fire protection system in the Excelsior Car barn and Shops was confirmed for a total amount of \$38,075.00 not including a \$5,000.00 contingency fund, the expenditure of which would require Board approval. Bob Johnson will discuss whether a reduction in the size of the pipe from six to four inches will reduce the cost to the Museum. It was noted that a fundraising drive will be necessary to raise funds to replace the security system in the George K. Isaacs Car barn and Shops and the Linden Hills Station and add a fire protection system in the car barn and shops.

Appointment of Community Directors. Mike Miller made contact with Bob Beyer of Beyer's Hardware and several others. Bob expressed a willingness to serve and the others expressed some interest. Louis Hoffman will contact Mike to determine the exact status of his contacts. There was some discussion

about the role of community directors. It was generally agreed that they would serve two roles. First, as a liaison between the Museum and the community, both Linden Hills and Excelsior. With respect to Excelsior, Bob will talk to Bruce Kobs to identify a community director from the Excelsior area. Second, as a person who brings certain skills, such as fundraising, marketing, and special events organization, to the Museum.

Assignment of \$13,500.00 received from the Edwards Car Company. The funds will be placed in the General Fund but, in the event the Board desires to restrict them at a later date, they will continue to be listed separately in the Cash Balances Report.

Registration of MSM and TCL logos. It was agreed that proper registration of these logos to ensure that they are not misused by others is desirable. Jim will contact Jerry Leimer, an attorney who did similar work for the Minnesota Transportation Museum, to seek his advice and possible assistance. It was mentioned that the cost may be about \$500.00 per registration. Jim will also research the United States Patent Office's website for guidance.

Treasurer. Scott Heiderich presented the Treasurer's Report, which was accepted.

General Superintendent's Report.

- Construction status. All contractor work is done. There is miscellaneous work to be done by volunteers such as filling gaps, installing guard rail, spiking, and completing the installation of the lamp posts at the underpass. General Superintendent Rod Eaton hopes to have the Linden Hills Station repainted and have various repairs made to the station yet this fall.
- Mechanical Department leadership and operations. John Prestholdt has agreed to serve as the new Shop Foreman.
- Repairs to TCRT No. 1239 and No. 1300. Repairs to No. 1239 are complete although there are some minor mechanical issues to be looked into. Excelsior crews will need to be trained on No. 1239 as well. No. 1300 will be ready for service in time for the Halloween Ghost Trolley. Crews will remove it from service immediately afterwards to start work on the front vestibule.
- Wednesday operations. Statistics and anecdotal information indicate that Wednesday afternoon operations have been successful, generally equivalent to a weeknight shift. The time will change from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. to 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. based on the observation that business is stronger at the start of the shift and slows noticeably as the dinner hour approaches. It was also noted that souvenir sales are stronger, possibly because more children appear to come with more free-spending grandparents.
- Excelsior Streetcar Line track. Bob, Keith Anderson, and Scott are working on the gauge issues.

Chalet Station and Lowry Meadow. Aaron had informal discussions with Superintendent of Parks Jon Gurban about the Park Board fronting money for the acquisition of Mesaba No. 16. It was agreed that there needs to be a meeting with Superintendent Gurban to discuss exactly what the status of these various proposals is.

Proposed By-law amendment. Proposed By-law amendments were adopted as proposed. Scott suggested several changes in punctuation, which were also adopted.

Ratification of submission of annual report to the Attorney General. The electronic vote approving the submission of the annual report to the Attorney General was confirmed.

Participation in the Midwest Open Air Museum Coordinating Committee. Noel Petit of the Minnesota Transportation Museum invited the Museum to participate in the Midwest Open Air Museum's upcoming meeting in the Twin Cities. The Museum agreed to host a field trip and to participate in presenting a seminar depending on the topic and the Museum's ability to do so. Louis agreed to be the liaison between the Museum and MTM.

Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

Next meeting:

9:15 a.m.

Saturday, November 18, 2006 *(it was noted that on the normal date, Saturday, November 11, 2006, and the previous date, a number of Board members will be at the Association of Railway Museums annual meeting in Sacramento, California)*

Linden Hills Community Center *(proposed)*