

# The Minnesota Streetcar Museum

## MINUTES

### Annual Membership Meeting

9:00 a.m.,

Tuesday, March 14, 2006

Lynnhurst Community Center

**Call to Order:** Chair Jim Vaitkunas called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Vaitkunas introduced the interim Board of Directors and reported on the state of the Museum, focusing on accomplishments and challenges.

Under accomplishments, Vaitkunas noted the Museum's separation from the Minnesota Transportation Museum and the establishment of a new non-profit corporation in compliance with all applicable laws recruiting some 200 members, getting a quality website up and running, the Campaign for Como-Harriet and the TEA-21 track and physical plant reconstruction project, another successful Halloween Ghost Trolley at both Como-Harriet and Excelsior and the first-ever Holly Trolley at Como-Harriet, no missed shifts at either streetcar line, improved ridership at Excelsior, well-functioning equipment with major work on three streetcars, and significant progress towards installing sprinkler systems in both carbarns.

As challenges he noted level ridership and the need to increase special events and charters; the need to develop better educational programs; the need to recruit more and younger volunteers and train them better, requiring, ideally, a volunteer coordinator or committee; the need to raise significant additional funds to upgrade the security system in the George K. Isaacs Carbarn and Shops, install a security system at the Excelsior Carbarn and Shops, and install water service and install sprinkler systems at both buildings; working with the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board on the Chalet Station/Lowry Grove proposal; increasing our marketing and merchandising activities; continuing our preservation and restoration activities; staffing committees that are, for the most part, "paper" committees, and maintaining solid finances.

Vaitkunas also noted the deaths in the last year of Museum members and volunteers George Isaacs, Kathy Prestholdt, and Don Pribble.

Treasurer Bill Graham distributed the financial reports required to be provided to the membership by Minnesota law and reviewed the pertinent details of those reports. The membership approved the financial statements and balance sheet on a motion by Graham seconded by Aaron Isaacs. Graham thanked Accountant Russ Olson and noted that Scott Heiderich had agreed to serve as Treasurer.

Graham made the report of the Nominations and Elections Committee in the absence of Chair Mike Miller, noting that 187 ballots were mailed and 67 returned with the following results:

Bill Arends	63
Dave French	63
Scott Heiderich	54
Louis Hoffman	62
Bob Johnson	64

Jim Vaitkunas	62
Tom Beaumont	1 (write-in)
Bill Graham	3 (write-in)
Chris Heck	1 (write-in)
Karl Jones	2 (write-in)
Greg Taylor	1 (write-in)
Jim Willmore	1 (write-in)

Aaron Isaacs reported on the status of the Minnegazette, which is now a joint publication with the Minnesota Transportation Museum. He also noted that the Como-Harriet book is now paid for and that all sales are completely profit, although sales are level. In addition, he reported that the book he is co-authoring with John Diers that the University of Minnesota Press is publishing would be published in the spring of 2007. All profits will be to the Museum. Finally, he noted that John Robinson, a former MTM director and principal at the Jackson Street Roundhouse, would donate a cast plaque in honor of George Isaacs that will be installed in the George K. Isaacs Car barn and Shops.

**Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.