

# MINNESOTA STREETCAR MUSEUM

## MINUTES

Annual Membership Meeting  
7:00 PM — Wednesday — March 10, 2010  
Firefighter's Hall and Museum, Minneapolis, Minnesota

**Call to Order:** Chair David French called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM. Members in attendance by count were 42. As of January 1, 2010 the active membership of MTM was 295. Therefore, a quorum was achieved for this annual meeting.

Chair French introduced the MSM Directors and Officers who were present at the meeting.

Chair French then made the state of the Museum presentation. A copy of his presentation is made a part of these minutes.

Chair French then called forward Bob Johnson to thank him for his many years of volunteer work and service he gave to the Museum, and specifically the Excelsior Streetcar Line. Chair French also gave Bob much thanks and praise for his hard work in getting the water lines and sprinkler systems installed into both the Excelsior carbarn, and more recently, the George Isaacs carbarn in Minneapolis. As a token of the Museum's appreciation, Chair French presented Bob with a wood plaque on which was mounted a slice of streetcar girder rail from Minneapolis from the early 1890s, with a suitably engraved plate thanking Bob for his stellar volunteer service to MSM.

### Reports by Museum Officers

**Secretary's Report.** Corporate Secretary Jim Vaitkunas made a brief report to the members on the activities of the Corporate Secretary for the past year.

- MSM Complied with all statutory reporting requirements
- Drafted and published three new policies
  - ü No. 3 – Conflict of Interest Policy
  - ü No. 4 – Document Retention and Destruction Policy
  - ü No. 5 – Whistle Blower Policy
- Reviewed and updated two other policies
  - ü No. 6 – Volunteer Time Accounting Policy
  - ü No. 7 – Collections Policy
- Renewed all insurance policies
- Creating official Museum files and records
- Membership in the Museum as of January 1, 2010
  - ü Individual – 167
  - ü Household – 102
  - ü Lifetime – 26
  - ü Honorary – 3
  - ü Drop outs – 76
  - ü Deceased – 10
- New – 2-year memberships will now be offered

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**Treasurer's Report.** Treasurer Scott Heiderich distributed copies of the three financial reports: FY 2009 balance sheet, Profit and Loss Report for FY 2009, and the cash balances report as of February 28, 2010. These reports are made a part of these minutes. Mr. Heiderich then briefly reviewed these reports and answered questions.

**MOTION:** Made by John Cochran; Second by Stanley Kassal.  
The report by the Treasurer of the Minnesota Streetcar Museum is approved.  
**VOTE:** Carried Unanimously.

**General Superintendent's Report.** General Superintendent, Rod Eaton rendered a report on the activities and accomplishments in 2009 for both demonstration railways. He then provided a preview of the activities and special events planned for 2010. Below is a summary of Rod's report.

We have a busy season ahead of us, with a number of major projects planned at both Como-Harriet and Excelsior:

- Rebuild the grade crossing at 42<sup>nd</sup> Avenue.
- Relocate the historic Glenwood Park shelter to CHSL's Lake Calhoun platform.
- Install a sewage line into the George Isaacs Carbarn.
- Raise the overhead trolley wire at Excelsior.
- Repair and paint the Excelsior carbarn.

Additionally:

- Eagle Scouts plan to backdate Cottage City stop to 1906 appearance.
- Create a plan to replace the Linden Hills platform.

Seasonal schedules will remain the same. Shift end time Saturday and Sundays in October and November will now be 4:30 PM rather than 5:00 PM. We may be adding a new special event or two, including a half-day Streetcar Camp for youngsters. Excelsior may add Story Time Trolley, and is planning to work with the Excelsior Ladies Night Out event. Recertification will begin early April, and this year we'll all be required to operate. Schedules and information will be available soon.

**Other Reports.** Aaron Isaacs, the Museum's Development Manager reported on the successful applications for grants from several sources, including the Weck Foundation and the 20<sup>th</sup> Century Electric Railway Foundation. Other grant applications are pending. Specifically, the Museum received \$10,000 in 2009 and several smaller grants in 2007 and 2008 from the 20<sup>th</sup> Century Electric Railway Foundation. We are now applying for a grant to refurbish the two electric motors that we need to restore Winona No. 10.

**Election of MSM Directors.** Corporate Secretary Vaitkunas gave the members an overview of the election process and the results of the call for nominees to fill the four vacancies on the Museum's Board of Directors. As of early January there were four Director positions that were up for election at this annual meeting in March, 2010. Two incumbents, Dave French and Aaron Isaacs, have agreed to serve another full three-year term.

In accordance with section 5.07 of the by-laws, Chris Heck and R. Bruce Kobs were previously appointed by the Board to fill the vacancies resulting from the resignations in 2009 of Louis Hoffman and Bob Johnson, respectively. Both Kobs and Heck have expressed their intent to run for election to these two Director seats during this 2010 election. However, the terms for these two Directors, if they are elected, will expire in March, 2011. Vaitkunas explained that the terms for

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Kobs and Heck will expire in March, 2011 because that is the date at which the normal three-year terms for Johnson and Hoffman were and are to expire.

Vaitkunas then reported that by the deadline of January 9, 2010 no other candidates were nominated other than the four who had already expressed their intent to run for the four Director vacancies. Therefore, in accordance with Section 5.04 of the Museum's by-laws, the election by mail ballots process did not have to be conducted and the Nomination and Election Committee did not have to be appointed.

After this brief report by Secretary Vaitkunas, Chair French called for a motion to elect the indicated members by acclamation.

**MOTION:** Made by Bob Bayers; Second by John Cochran.

That the following Museum members are elected as Directors on the Museum's governing Board by acclamation for the terms indicated next to their names.

- Dave French – Term expires in March, 2013
- Chris Heck – Term expires in March, 2011
- Aaron Isaacs – Term expires in March 2013
- R. Bruce Kobs – Term expires in March, 2011

**VOTE:** Carried Unanimously.

**Presentations.**

A fine presentation on the history and Architecture of the Chalet Station at Lake Harriet was given to the members by member Joe Metzler, who is a restoration architect. A copy of Mr. Metzler's presentation is made a part of these minutes.

A video produced by Choo-Choo Bob's Train Store was shown to the members.

**Adjournment.** The annual meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM.

  
JAMES A. VAITKUNAS  
*Corporate Secretary*