

IMODS Meeting Minutes 09-27-07

- I. President's Report (Randy Miles) – Call to order 6:37p
- II. Introductions
 - A. Street Level – the newspaper – bi-monthly paper - all of Skokie, 4 pages in centerfold for downtown. Fred and Chris Gilman. Available at merchants stores. 7,000 circulation. Public service inserts. Advertising interest follow-up with Randy.
 - B. Backlot Bash follow up – Huge success. 25000 people. Minor complaints. Things worked well, no traffic issues. Silent films were big success. Car show great success. Add motorcycle show. Adding kids and teen events. Thanks to all involved.
 - C. 9-11 follow up – 3rd annual. Because of Bash, didn't get proper promotion. Musical tribute to First Responders. Beautiful evening, but booked against Jewish holidays.
 - D. Art community quarterly meetings – Sonya Baysinger, (absent,) wanted to see if we can bridge gap between all artists groups in Skokie. Several groups presently exist. Contact leaders of all groups, to coordinate mutual programs. Cross-promotion, attendance of each other's events.
 - E. Street Level Gallery Holiday programs – Arts & Entertainment committee. Working with many schools toward Halloween decorating event. Carry past Halloween to Christmas season. We seek school district's participation. We'd like to bring it to all the stores. Even a couple of pieces will count. It will develop a stronger sense of community.
 - F. Holiday Lights program - \$10,000 per year from Village. We request merchants contribute their part. If you're a merchant, please put something up for the holiday season.
 - G. Skokie Music Theatre Foundation – Now formally a member of IMODS, as opposed to the individuals in the theater.

H. 50th Anniversary Skokie Caucus Party – IMODS congratulating the anniversary.

I. Spring & Summer programs

1. Cruise Night (classic and antique cars, motorcycles) – Creating event every month. Perhaps every Wednesday of the months during the summer. Committee to form to assess feasibility.
2. Downtown Summer Concert Series – Once a week, small concert or something, program in little parks. Static night of the week. May-October
3. 4th of July Parade – Form committee.
4. Backlot Bash – End of summer event. Committee leaders.
5. Musical Tribute to the 9-11 Heroes – 4th Anniversary.

J. 4th Quarter Newsletter articles are now being accepted. Kathy Skobel, “Do we want editorial in the newsletter?” – It would be okay.

K. Web Site update – Scott Holtz – Nothing surprising. Backlot Bash information was biggest hit – nearly 1,000. Updated with next newsletter.

II. Treasurer’s Report – Richard Witry (absent) – Bill Novello reports \$17000 available. We do have Foyteck fund at \$1500 presently. Treasurers report approved by membership as submitted.

III. A & E Committee Report – Sonya Baysinger (absent) Read – Salon d’arte at October 28, at 1 pm, Skokie Northshore sculpture park. Lasts about an hour. Details being prepared. Fine Arts forum to coordinate all arts organizations in Skokie. Tentative date Weds., November 7, at 7 pm. Holiday theme Salon d’Arte to happen in December.

IV. Committee Chair Reports

Property Development - Peter Nicholas – Project going up for approval on Monday – Skokie Blvd. PrinMar developer.

Membership RCN- John / I do Weddings- Linda, / Fran – Consumer Affairs Commission, / Fun – Barb Foundation Uniting district 69. Welcome to new members.

V. Secretary’s Report –Monte Rifkin

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes of 8/22/07 – Approved as submitted.
2. Request support for Randy for Merchant of the Year. Approved.

VI. Village of Skokie Report – Tom Thompson (Economic Development) – PrinMar received unanimous support at Village Board meeting. Train station project mired in battle between ComEd and CTA. Consultant doing further design work on where platform will be extended. Two properties needing acquisition are still in court. Judge requesting updated appraisals. Randy: “Quick Take” has not been enacted yet. Planning Commission gave very positive support to downtown plan. Approval of plan by Board of Trustee’s necessary to plan for PrinMar. Will requiring rezoning. Smaller development to north, Madison Square, is proceeding well. PrinMar confident of market potential of downtown. Board will introduce proceedings for eminent domain at 5120 Oakton Street. “Main Street Project” – No new information.

Randy requests group to take position on Greening of Skokie. Motion: **IMODS, in support of creating incentives for sustainability in new development to open discussion with the Public Works department and the New Green Commission, led by Scott Berman, in the interest of getting Skokie certified. MOTION TO PROCEED: Nicholas/Cook. Motion carries unanimously.**

VII. New Business- St. Peters Oktoberfest opens tonight.

VIII. Adjournment – 7:34 pm.