

## IMODS General Membership Meeting Minutes 11-28-07

The meeting was called to order by President Miles at 6:35 PM. Directors present were Miles, Witry, Baysinger, Nicholas & Schmidt.

President Miles delivered the following report:

- Art Forum was held at the Skokie Public Library on November 14th. It was well attended with approximately 25-30 participants. Its purpose was to bring together artisans and folks interested in art who have a presence in or are interested in presenting art in the downtown area. Thanks to Sonya Baysinger for chairing this event.

- Merchants are participating in the Holiday light program. President Miles was very active in helping with installation. Peter Haben was very helpful. Peter was paid \$1,000.00 for his efforts. A motion was made by William Novello to ratify payment to Haben which was seconded by William Schmidt. Motion carried on voice vote.

- the Spring and Summer programs were discussed. Howard Meyer, Executive Director of the Skokie Chamber has volunteered to chair the Cruise Night Committee and Scott Holtz has expressed an interest in chairing the Outdoor Movie Series. President Miles is discussing the Downtown Concert Series with the Skokie Park District.

- The Board established the following 2008 meeting dates which will follow the same T-W-Th rotation as 2007: January 15, February 20, March 20, April 22, May 21, June 19, July 15, August 20, Sept. 18, October 21, November 19 and December 18. FYI: the December 2007 meeting was cancelled. The December 2008 meeting date is tentative and may not be held.

Tom Thompson reported on the following:

- The CTA and Com Ed are stalemated regarding the moving of a power pole at the proposed new Swift Station. Talks continue. Also, design continues.

- The light pole decorations are in place. The new wreaths cost approximately \$300.00 per.

- The condemnation cases on Skokie Blvd. continue.

- The Prinmar development at the old Napleton properties was approved. Two buildings - 115" tall - 156 units of condos and approximately 12,000 square feet of retail.

- Avalon Bay discussions have reached a stalemate and a "Developer Agreement" between it and the Village has not been reached. Reading between the lines, other developers are now free to present their ideas to the Village.

Scott Holtz discussed the web site. He reported that there were 521 visitors in the past month. The newsletter was downloaded 46 times and the Salon d'Art ad piece was downloaded 10 times in the past week. Dick Witry informed Scott that the IMODS annual meeting will be held at the February meeting and that a slate of directors will be presented for inclusion in the web site.

Two budgetary items were mentioned. The 4th quarter budget request was delivered to the Village of Skokie and the 2008 request for continuation of funding were both discussed.

Kathy Skobel discussed the 4th quarter news letter which is late. She discussed some topics which could be written about: a review of the Backlot Bash, President's letter, condo stats etc. Proposed articles should be submitted by December 15th.

250 member packets were delivered. They are jackets which can be filled with information about events and other information about downtown Skokie.

She obtained costs for printing a business directory. President Miles indicated that it was his opinion that no business should be intentionally excluded from the directory. Lastly, she discussed the idea of building Information Kiosks which could be located at the gateways to downtown and at Krier Plaza.

Sonya Baysinger reported that the gallery opening was very successful. The presenting artist sold art and generated in excess of \$15,000.00 in sales. The next gallery opening will feature Suzy Inverso and her photo collection entitled "Stuff I've Taken Pictures Of". This will open on 12/09 at 3:00 PM.

The next Salon d'Art will be held Saturday, December 1st at 12:00 Noon at Toscana. A buffet luncheon will be served. Chris Plummer, the Executive Director of North Shore Sculpture Park will speak.

Sonya discussed the Ice Sculpture event tentatively scheduled for Saturday, February 9th. The theme will be "I only have ice for you". The cost is about \$2,000.00. Music, a bonfire and blocks of ice to be carved will be presented. Funding for this program is to be further developed as will the locations if this event is held.

Dick Witry gave the Treasurers Report. There is \$14,240.92 cash on hand which is comprised of \$7,405.85 in grant funds and \$6,835.07 in unencumbered funds. The Foyteck fund has approximately \$4,500.00. This fund is not part of IMODS operating funds and is separately held and reported.

The minutes of the October meeting were previously circulated. William Schimidt moved their approval which was seconded by William Novello. Motion passed.

Motion to adjourn made and passed. Next meeting is to be January 15, 2008 at the Holiday Inn.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dick Witry, Sec. Pro Tem.