

**IMODS
MINUTES OF 09/18/2008 MEETING**

President Miles convened the meeting at 6:30 PM. The following Directors were present: Randy Miles, Dick Witry, Kathy Skobel, Bill Novello, Bill Schmidt and Scott Holtz. The following members were present: Louis Irmo, Susan Irmo, Rick Moscovitz, David McWhinnie, Tom Thompson, Fran Roehm, and Mark Pershin.

The Backlot Bash was, in the opinion of all concerned, a large success. It was extremely well attended. Constructive criticisms were tendered and will be considered at the wrap-up meeting. Scott Holtz received kudos from President Miles for his efforts coordinating volunteers during the BLB. All members joined in the applause.

Based on IMODS funding, the Skokie Theater Foundation ran a silent film festival which drew large numbers of viewers. IMODS members contributed \$3,135 to sponsor the program. IMODS picked up the deficit which amounted to \$1,865.

President Miles reported on the 9/11 concert which was also well attended. The Skokie Heritage Museum hosted a wine and cheese party that evening. It is hoped that the two events could be combined in the future to provide some critical mass to each event.

President Miles reported on the "Cruise the Backlot" events. The last show was the preceding evening and was well attended – estimated at 300-400 folks. The program resulted in a net cost to IMODS of \$1,809. President Miles is following up on RCN's contribution of \$1,000.

Plans for next year may entail a joint program which will result in the program being held on two weeks in each month in the same location as present. The other two weeks will be located on Oakton Street near Crawford Avenue. A cruise from one location to the other is planned on Memorial and Labor Days. The Skokie Public Library is considering hosting a sock hop on the same evenings as the Cruise. Finances are always a concern and sponsors need to be lined up. It is hoped that the Village of Skokie will contribute the cost of set-up and police presence.

Niles High District 219 is hosting a celebration of Niles West 50th Anniversary on October 4, 2008. The Buckingham's will perform. Tickets cost \$75.00.

IMODS & the Skokie Heritage Museum are hosting an Antiques Road Show on October 11, 2008 between the hours of 2-4 PM. The cost to have an item appraised is \$5.00. Net proceeds will be donated to the Foyteck Fund.

In Sonya Baysinger's absence, President Miles reported that the Mike Bauer sculpture will be installed on the green area adjacent to Veterans Park. All approvals have been received. IMODS is paying for the installation costs and is still looking for a sponsor of the exhibit.

Although Al Curtis was absent, President Miles reported that the Skokie Music

Foundation would be amenable to allowing IMODS to adopt one show to use as a fundraiser. It was thought that a family oriented show during the Holiday season would be desirable.

Scott Holtz reported on the website's numbers for August. He reported that August was the best month ever which was due hits on the Backlot Bash.

No update on the Zoning Commission as Peter Nicholas was absent.

Kathy Skobel discussed the flyers which are taking the place of the newsletters. She raised an issue with respect to new signage marking the entries to the downtown area. The idea is to "brand" downtown.

Bill Novello presented the Treasurer's report. Witry moved its approval which was seconded by Holtz. Motion passed in a voice vote.

The minutes of the July 15th meeting were passed out electronically. Motion to approve made by Miles and seconded by Holtz. Motion passed in a voice vote.

Tom Thompson reported on the Skokie Swift Oakton Street station. Progress has been made toward the purchase of the necessary properties. The proposed station will probably look like the revamped Brown Line stations. The Skokie Swift weekend ridership is far exceeding expectations.

Major rehab is ongoing at the site of the former Vitello's Bakery. The Skokie Post Office has finally begun demolition on a property to its south (which it purchased years ago) and is converting to a parking lot.

The Illinois & Science Technology Park continues to attract tenants with on-site employees now totaling 900. Evanston Northwestern HealthCare is the largest tenant in terms of employees. Nano, Inc has just signed up for approximately 40,000 square feet.

President Miles thanked the Skokie Park District, the Skokie Fire Dept and Police Dept for jobs well done at the Backlot Bash. He thanked Patti Witry and the Skokie Historical Society for providing the historic pictures which dotted the downtown area during the Bash.

There was a discussion regarding parking meters and bike racks.

Next meeting date will be October 21st and will be held at the Skokie Public Library. Directors will meet at 6:00 PM and the general meeting will convene at 6:30 PM.

A motion to adjourn was made at 7:30 PM which was seconded. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard J. Witry, Secretary