

**IMODS  
MINUTES OF 05/21/2008**

**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

President Miles convened the Directors meeting at 6:35 PM. All Directors save Scott Holtz and William Schmidt were present. Barry Edwards, who will MC the Backlot Bash and DJ the Cruise Night programs was present.

The Festival of Cultures was held on May 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>. The brochure authorized by the Board at its last meeting was prepared and disseminated at the FOC. The board has decided to reprint the brochure due to several errors that slipped by in the original copy. Thanks to the Chamber for its aid in passing the brochure to the crowd.

The Village Board approved holding the Backlot Bash in downtown. A web site has been established – backlotbash.com.

It will be up to IMODS to raise the funds to defray the expenses to open the theater during the BLB. President Miles has contacted Amanda Hansen at the Heritage Museum to determine if there are any documents which can be used to advertise the events at the Theater. Dick Witry offered that the Skokie Historical Society may be able to contribute the cost of preparation of any ad pieces. IMODS members are invited to participate in this sponsorship opportunity. Films that were actually shot downtown like the Bronco Billy series will be featured.

Lastly, IMODS will ask volunteers to staff the Information Booth at the BLB.

President Miles brought a brochure that was created for “Cruise Night” which will be held on June 18<sup>th</sup>, July 16<sup>th</sup>, August 20<sup>th</sup> and September 17<sup>th</sup> from 6 PM to 9 PM. Barry Edwards will DJ and local food vendors will be contacted. Location for each of the shows will be the Village parking lot immediately west of Village Hall. Of course we are looking for sponsors to aid in defraying the cost.

There is an all-class Niles West High School Reunion which will take place on October 4, 2008 in honor of the school’s 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The Buckingham’s will play and this event is a fundraiser. The cost will be \$75.00 per ticket.

The Antique Road Show will be sponsored by IMODS & the Skokie Park District on October 11, 2008 from 2 PM to 4PM. IMODS paid \$250.00 for the appraiser. Motion to ratify the payment was made by Bill Novello and seconded by John Haben. Motion carried. A \$5.00 admission fee will be donated to the Foyteck Memorial Fund.

President Miles reported that the Mayor had appointed members to the Skokie Art Advisory Board but that IMODS was not requested to suggest the names of possible members. He wrote a letter to the Mayor asking for ex-officio status for IMODS but has not yet received a reply.

Sonya Baysinger reported on the activities of the Arts and Entertainment Committee. The Mike Baur show opened up in Northbranch Gallery on May 16<sup>th</sup> to an overflow crowd. The Show, which displays Baur's metal sculpture will stay until July 31<sup>st</sup>. The Village Board approved placement of some of Baur's larger works on the parcel of property immediately north of the vacant golf store across from the gallery. The cost will be \$1,200.00 to install a couple of pieces on the property and another \$1,200.00 to remove. Bill Novello moved that IMODS expend \$1,200.00 to install the sculptures which motion was seconded by John Haben. Motion passed in a voice vote. The sculptures should be on display in the near future.

The Salon d'Arte scheduled for April 20<sup>th</sup> at Sweetie Pies was cancelled and will be rescheduled.

Ms. Baysinger and Scott will set-up the displays at the Desiree property keeping the Street Level Gallery Project active. A switch-out at the Oakton Pharmacy store will also occur in the next several weeks.

The next Skokie Art Forum meeting is scheduled for June 24<sup>h</sup> at the Skokie Public Library. Lastly, she reported on the 20<sup>th</sup> year Sculpture Park anniversary. The tree has been erected at Sculpture Park between Oakton and Main Street near the parking lot.

Ms. Baysinger reported that the Empty Walls art project which occurred on May 17<sup>th</sup> netted District 219 \$3,000.00 which will be donated to "Partners in Health".

Both Mary Bruninga and Scott Holtz were absent and no reports were received.

Francis Roehm, Skokie Public Library, commented on SkokieNet and passed out a brochure.

The North Shore Convention Bureau ad was discussed and Kathy Skobel discussed the IMODS brochure which was passed out over the weekend at the Festival of Cultures. A previous email vote by the board approved \$500 for an ad in the NSCVB annual book to be released in June.

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

The minutes of the April 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting were passed out electronically. Motion to approve made by Novello seconded by Haben. Motion passed in a voice vote.

Tom Thompson from the Village of Skokie was present and reported that the CTA and COMED are now co-operating in the Skokie Swift Station project on Dempster Street. The condemnation suits for the property on Searle Pkwy and Skokie Blvd continue. A question was posed as to how much money has been raised by the Village of

Skokie fine arts fund which is funded by a tax imposed on building permits. Mr. Thompson reported that he thought the amount raised approximated \$50,000.00 to date.

He reported that the Tech Park was approximately 40% leased with 11 tenants in place and 2 proposals pending. Avalon Bay, which the Village selected to be its development partner for Lincoln & Oakton, will no longer play a role in the redevelopment of downtown. Agreement about the amount of TIF money to be used in the project could not be reached.

The town house project at the William Meyer property was approved by the Village Board. It appears that construction will not start until 2009.

Next meeting dated will be June 19th and will be at the Holiday Inn. The July and August meetings will be held at the Skokie Public Library at 6:30 P.M. 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