

**PIEDMONT DIVISION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING REPORT
February 9, 2010**

Board of Directors Meeting

Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m., Old Hickory House, Northlake Pkwy, Tucker, GA, by Howard Goodwin, Superintendent.

Board Members Present as taken from the sign-in sheet (13): Scott Povlot, David Gelmini, Gary Jarabek, Chris White, Howard Goodwin, Bob McIntyre, Rick Coble, David Gilly, Scott Chatfield, Mike Deaton, Joe Sullivan, Bill Zawacki, Charlie Crawford

Absent (1): Ovidiu Trifanescu

Quorum Present

Committee Chairs, Division Members, and Visitors Present as taken from the sign-in sheet (16): Joe Nichols, Sr., Diane Kittendorf, Del Kittendorf, John Stevens, John Blanchard, Scott Perry, I.D. Jackson, Jim Travis, Tom Banks, Stephen Leydon, Alan Mole, Bill Lyons, Rick Wade, Louis Gomes, Mike Scupin, Perry Lamb, Peter Youngblood

Officer and Director Reports

Administration—Rick Coble

The Minutes of the January 2010 BOD Meeting was approved.

Director of Administration Report for January:

Raffle License. Rick received the raffle license from Cobb County.

Meeting Announcements. We will try placing announcements on a white board at the general meeting.

Finance—Chris White

The January Financial Report was approved.

Chris distributed a copy of the January Financial report and revised budget for 2010 to the Board of Directors.

Chris added the following comments:

We had 2010 Train Show table income and misc expenses for the Train Show. Note that the Train Show is presently in the negative due to the large Galleria prepayments. The Auction was a financial success with results very similar to previous years. The Division had a Net Income and the details are included in the spreadsheet. (As a comment, Chris still does not understand the relatively low turnout of the active Division members. There are always bargains to be had - as well as fine margaritas.) Thanks to all those volunteers who assisted Mike D in his efforts. We should have left-over soda and chips for sale at the February meeting.

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Finance—Chris White (continued)

Other items:

Interest from a CD that was cashed during the month.
First Quarter Timetable Expenses
Boy Scout switching layouts expenses
Division PO Box Expenses

IRS Form 990 for a 501 (c) corporation has been filed electronically.

Chris has re-registered the Division with the State of Georgia and has changed our address.

Bob Woods has asked Chris if he should make any more DVDs. Chris informed him that the Board would consider.

Chris has attached a copy of the revised budget as we discussed at the January Board Meeting. I would propose that we approve at the February Meeting.

Operations—Charlie Crawford

Clinics Scheduled into 3rd Quarter

Need a few open houses for 2nd Quarter

Module Building Clinic II had a disappointing turnout (only two showed.) Suggest we reschedule.

Charlie has several proposals for AV equipment to bring to Board as New Business.

Membership – David Gilly

January 2010 attendance was 104, including 1 visitor. 12-month meeting attendance average is 96; 24 month is 91.

New Members – 4 (1 purchased Rail Pass membership)

Total new members for 2009 – 4

David sent a spreadsheet with attendance figures back to 2005.

Committee Reports

Achievement Program—Bob McIntyre

No report.

Peachtree Express— Bob McIntyre

The Peachtree Express committee met prior to the February BOD meeting.

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Piedmont Pilgrimage— Bob McIntyre

Will present certificates to Pilgrimage hosts during the general meeting.

Member Aid— Bob McIntyre

No report

Advertising and Promotion/Division Apparel—Gary Jarabek

Advertising:

Monthly Meetings

Scale Rails submitted through June Issue

Railroad Model Craftsman submitted through June Issue.

Trains.com submitted through July 2010

Train Show

Trains.com

Scales Rails: February and March

Railroad Model Craftsman: February and March

Company Store:

There are only med and XL of old style short sleeve polo shirts left to sell. These will be sold at \$28.00.

New polo shirts in stock at the price of \$33.00, no XL in stock or med in stock.

Complete size range of long sleeve denim shirts.

There are 5 vests left.

Caps are also in stock.

Mugs will be distributed to new NMRA members.

2010 Train Show –Joe Gelmini

Kids Layout

Layout was retrieved from Perry Lamb and is currently at David Gelmini's.

After examination, we determined a complete rebuild of layout is **NOT NEEDED**, saving considerable money from the budgeted amount

New hardware added to stabilize legs

New wiring underway

New curtain-mounting system underway

Will need to purchase a couple replacement accessories

Biggest need is to find a **permanent storage facility** after the show.

Vendor Sales

We are currently 82% sold out (tables); expecting a sell-out by show time

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2010 Train Show - continued

Display Layouts

Will have six display layouts plus the kid's layout

Athens Bend Track (N Scale; **New this year**)

Atlantic Coast S Gaugers

North GA Lego Club

North GA Modurail (HO)

Sipping & Switching Society (4,500 Sq Ft HO; **New this year**)

Southern O Scalers (**New this year**)

We have obtained a raffle license from the Cobb County Sheriff's Department.

Good and Welfare –Joe Gelmini

Card to Melody Youngblood, wife of Peter (father passing)

Division Video Library-Joe Sullivan.

No report

Division Book Library-Stephen Leydon

Books Owned: 353

Books Loaned 1

Total Books: 354

Circulating: 52

During the January meeting more members borrowed books than returned books which is normal for this time of year. The library accepted three books as donations, two old editions and one fairly new book in excellent condition. The purchase of 15 select books from a large collection has been. The books will be cataloged and available to the general membership at the March meeting.

Timetable-Rick Coble

The Q2 Timetable deadline is March 16, 2010, one full week after the division meeting and after the train show.

Website-Scott Povlot (report submitted in advance)

January 2010 Total page requests: 12,177

New Timetable and schedule posted on Piedmont Division website

New Train Show site at <http://www.themodeltrainshow.com/>

Louie Gomes is now assisting with website updates.

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Boy Scout Merit Badge Program-John Stevens

John has ordered locomotives for the layouts. He has also started removing the old track and repainting the layouts. He is hoping to have them all ready sometime in late February or early March. At that point, He will schedule a build date.

Work continues on James Deaton's Eagle Scout Project to build a storage shed for the switching layouts that will be located on the museum grounds. James is finalizing his cost estimates and is preparing to enter the fundraising portion of his project. We hope to have the project completed by the April 2010 Merit Badge Session.

We are still working to get the counselors registered with the BSA Atlanta Area Council HQ. Bill Ello has been assisting John with this project.

John plans on presenting some type of merit badge program at the national convention in 2013. John is still undecided on the type of program we will present. John will keep the BOD updated on which approach he chooses.

The next session of our Boy Scout Railroading Merit Badge Program presented at the Southeastern Railway Museum will be held on Saturday April 17, 2010. The fall session is scheduled for September 25, 2010.

Auctions-Mike Devaney

No report.

Special Projects-Scott Chatfield

No report.

Old Business

Salute to Model Railroads – Southern Museum of Civil War & Locomotive History

Howard Goodwin was contacted by Sallie Loy of the Southern Museum of Civil War & Locomotive History concerning Salute to Model Railroads, to be held in May 2010 in Kennesaw. This event is an excellent opportunity for the division to promote the hobby and the NMRA. Howard Goodwin has committed volunteers to present clinics with a local flavor. Joe Nichols, Sr. has committed to present "The History of Atlanta Railroads Parts 1 & 2." Howard continues to look for volunteers to assist.

Meeting Announcements

Rick has brought a white board to the February meeting. We will place some announcements on the board.

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Southeastern Railroad 2010

Howard Goodwin was contacted by the Southern Railway Historical Society about the Division's participation in the Southeastern Railroad 2010. In return for assisting the society with promoting and running the convention (especially activities in the area, layout tours and clinics), the division would have the opportunity to reach potential members and serve as an outreach program.

Howard Goodwin is in the process of finding clinicians for the program.

Mike Deaton has researched bus rates for the program. These rates have been passed along to the organizing group.

Dates are April 22-25, 2010.

Marketing DVD Video

Peter Youngblood has begun working with Green Frog Productions on a Marketing DVD/Video in conjunction with Green Frog Production's technical assistance which promotes the 2013 Convention and which will travel with the "Peachtree Express" booth cross-country. Green Frog Productions has agreed to assist with the production of the DVDs for a booth at the 2013 National Train Show. Peter would like to put an agreement in the hands of Green Frog Productions. Howard Goodwin and Bob McIntyre will work with the National Train Show Committee on the agreement.

Permanent Corporate Address

Chris White completed the change of address to Cobb County.

Name Badges

Bill Lyons has begun the process of creating new name badges for members. As a first step, he would like to create badges for the BOD and ten new members. He will obtain the names of the new members from David Gilly. Members receiving badges would supply Bill with information for their badge. Bill discussed potential costs with Howard Goodwin. Howard feels that the costs should be absorbed by the division vs. an additional charge for each member requesting a badge. Bill has requested test data from members.

New Business

Peter Youngblood, MMR 433

Peter Youngblood has earned the designation Master Model Railroader.

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Layout tour DVDs (Sent to Charlie Crawford from Bob Wood)

Proposal-0220110.doc – This proposal requests the Board to **appoint a person authorized to place an order for the “Piedmont Division Home Layout Tours 2009” DVD**. We think the logical person to place these orders is the Director of Operations (with a possible consultation with the Director of Finance to make sure that funds are available to pay the invoice when it arrives.)

The Division has sold 50 to date and has none in stock. The Board approved a minimum run (approximately 25) purchase @ \$7.50 plus tax per DVD.

Speaker Stands (Sent to Charlie Crawford from Bob Wood)

Proposal-012610.doc – This proposal requests **permission to purchase a pair of speaker stands for our existing Fender Passport Sound Reinforcement System at a cost of about \$120**. They will be used at every Division Meeting, Auction, and clinics at future train shows at a minimum. They are also pretty much universal so they can also be used with any future upgrade of our sound system.

The Board approved the purchase of the speaker stands.

Wireless Microphone Stand (Sent to Charlie Crawford from Bob Wood)

Proposal-013010.doc – This proposal requests the purchase of **the Shure Wireless Microphone System** which we have been using since last April at every Division Meeting and Auction.

A discussion of the purchase of the wireless microphone system will continue in March. No action taken.

Division Assets.

Chris White spoke with our accountant concerning division assets. We are required to list all assets. Chris will begin the process of identifying and cataloging all division assets.

The Meeting Adjourned 6:40 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Rick Coble, Director of Administration