

**PIEDMONT DIVISION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING REPORT
March 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 (22): Joe Nichols, Sr., John Stevens, Louie Gomes, Perry Lamb, Ron Gough, Jim Travis, I.D. Jackson, Randall Watson, Del Kittendorf, Diane Kittendorf, John Blanchard, Rick Wade, Scott Perry, Mike Scupin, Bill Lyons, Ed Svitil, Joe Gelmini, Tom Banks, Walt Liles, Bill Smith, Len Polinsky, Joe Nichols, Jr.

Officer and Director Reports

Administration—Rick Coble

The February Minutes was approved.

The white board returns for general meeting announcements.

Rick will distribute the first abbreviated agenda Monday the 8th.

The Bylaws committee will present bylaws changes at the April meeting. Rick took a few minutes on Tuesday summarizing the changes and will distribute those changes via email for review, but not for a vote, prior to the April meeting.

Finance—Chris White

The February Financial Report was approved.

Chris distributed a copy of the February 2010 Financial report prior to the BOD meeting and added the following comments:

- We received Train Show table revenues and incurred expenses during the month.
- Other income was for clothing the January and February Raffle sales..
- Other income and expense items are detailed in the spreadsheet.

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Finance - continued

- We presently have a large cash balance in our checking account, partly due to very low interest rates and partly due to very high cash requirements for the Train Show. I will look for a good CD rate after the Train Show.

Operations—Charlie Crawford

Still have a couple of layout tours to arrange for 2nd Quarter. Clinics are arranged into 3rd quarter.

When needed Bob Wood has been renting a video mixer so videos can be shown from all three projectors. This item costs several thousand dollars, but can be rented for \$ 25.00 per day. Charlie doesn't think we should buy one, just rent when needed. (Also in New Business).

Charlie will make an announcement at the meeting for layout volunteers.

Membership – David Gilly

January 2010 attendance was 101, including 3 visitors. 12-month meeting attendance average is 97; 24 month is 92.

New Members – 2, including 1 SouthErneR subscription

David sent a spreadsheet with attendance figures back to 2005.

Committee Reports

Achievement Program—Bob McIntyre

Corrected certificates will be distributed tonight.
Randall Watson will contact George Gilbert about Peter Youngblood's MMR presentation.

Peachtree Express— Bob McIntyre

The Peachtree Express logo is being modified to include required NMRA elements. Bob McIntyre and Perry lamb are working on the logo. Scott Povlot has drafted a modified version.

Piedmont Pilgrimage— Bob McIntyre

No report.

Member Aid— Bob McIntyre

No report

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Advertising and Promotion/Division Apparel—Gary Jarabek

Advertising:

Monthly Meetings

Scale Rails submitted through August Issue

Railroad Model Craftsman submitted through August Issue.

Trains.com submitted through August 2010

Train Show

Trains.com

Scales Rails: March

Railroad Model Craftsman: 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 2 vests left.

Caps are also in stock.

Mugs will be distributed to new NMRA members.

2010 Train Show—Joe Gelmini

Vendor Tables sold out - 62 vendors.

2nd weekend of March, 2011 **NOT** available. Have reserved 3rd weekend (March 19-20, 2011).

New date approved by the Board of Directors, given a successful show.

Volunteers have been assigned (60+). David Gelmini will make an announcement at the general meeting concerning volunteer assignments.

TV ad, print media ads, card mailings, hobby shop flyers are all done. Gary Jarabek will show Train Show commercial at general meeting.

Kid's layout refurbishment complete

Raffle layout progress on track

New and improved train show website at www.themodeltrainshow.com

Final committee meeting March 9

Friday volunteer meeting will be held following division meeting on March 9

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Good and Welfare –Joe Gelmini

Condolence card to Walt Liles (son)

Surgery recovery to Perry Lamb (eye surgery)

Condolence card to Peter Youngblood (father-in-law)

Division Video Library - Joe Sullivan

No report

Division Book Library-Stephen Leydon

During the February meeting 11 members borrowed 15 books. Six members returned eight books. The library purchased some selected books from a large collection. The books were picked up during the lunch hour, driving round trip from the airport to Kennesaw. Several other books and magazines were entered into the library officially adding an additional 20 titles to the collection. New 1"by 4" labels with only the current return address were printed for the older books to update the existing labels without requiring the reprinting of the full 2"by4" label.

Books Owned: 373

Books Loaned: 1

Total Books: 374

Circulating: 359

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

January 2010 Total page requests: 10,075

Scott included a report of web activity back to January 2008.

Boy Scout Merit Badge Program-John Stevens

John has ordered Atlas Genset locomotives for the layouts. The vendor has delayed delivery again. The new arrival date is the beginning of April. If they do not arrive in time, we will continue to use John's locomotives as backups. John has removed the old track from 4 of the 5 layouts. John has finished repainting two of them. John is planning a rebuild date for March 27th.

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. He has informed John that the project will not be completed by the April 2010 Merit Badge Session.

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Boy Scout Merit badge program - continued

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.

John has opened registration for the next session of our Boy Scout Railroading Merit Badge Program presented at the Southeastern Railway Museum on Saturday April 17, 2010. *The session has sold out.* All slots are reserved.

The fall session is scheduled for September 25, 2010.

Auctions-Mike Devaney

No report.

Special Projects-Scott Chatfield

No report.

Name Badges-Bill Lyons

Bill Lyons has completed a draft "Name badge Request Form" to be distributed during the BOD meeting. The form will facilitate the production of badges. Bill has also developed a procedure to keep the member involved during the badge production process.

Bill delivered name badges to individuals that worked with Bill to test the process at the Board of Directors meeting.

Old Business

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

This event has been cancelled for 2010 due to the lack of module group participation. The museum will try again next year.

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.

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Southeastern Railroad 2010 - continued

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 been 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 two booth spaces 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.

Peter will show the DVD at the general meeting.

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.

This item has been held until after the Model Train Show.

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.

New Business

Video Mixer (Charlie Crawford)

When needed Bob Wood has been renting a video mixer so videos can be shown from all three projectors. This item costs several thousand dollars, but can be rented for \$ 25.00 per day. Charlie doesn't think we should buy one, just rent when needed.

The Division will rent the mixer, as needed.

Raffle Layouts 2011 and Beyond (Howard Goodwin)

The Division is looking for groups to commit to building the raffle layout in coming years. The goal is to have a group commit more than one year out, hopefully minimizing last minute push to complete layout.

The North County Interchange operating group will discuss for 2011.
The Chattahoochee Express operating group will build the 2012 layout.

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Kid's Layout

The Kid's layout has been made available for an April 24, 2010 Model Train Show at Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church. Walt Liles is the contact for this event.

The Meeting Adjourned 6:23 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Rick Coble, Director of Administration