

PIEDMONT DIVISION BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING REPORT July 10, 2012

Board of Directors Meeting

Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m., Old Hickory House, Tucker, GA by Charlie Crawford, MMR, Superintendent.

Board Members Present *as taken from the sign-in sheet (13)*: Charlie Crawford, Rick Coble, Howard Goodwin, David Gelmini, Paul Rankin, Bill Zawacki, Gary Jarabek, I.D. Jackson, Peter Youngblood, Walt Liles, Mike Deaton, Scott Chatfield, Bob McIntyre

Absent (1): Joe Sullivan

Quorum Present

Committee Chairs, Division Members, and Visitors Present *as taken from the sign-in sheet (19)*: Tyler Gelmini, Norm Lundin, Greg Williams, Perry Lamb, Randall Watson, John Witherspoon, Victor Pitrowski, Lenny Polinsky, Del Kittendorf, Diane Kittendorf, Steve Funsten, Bob Wood, Doug Alexander, Kevin Bush, Joe Gelmini, Joe Surowiec, Edward Laity, Mike Scupin, Scott Povlot

Officer and Director Reports

Administration—Rick Coble

Nothing new to report.

Finance—I.D. Jackson

Treasurer Jackson distributed a financial report spreadsheet prior to the meeting.

Operations—Howard Goodwin

Time is flying by too fast this year! As the month wears on and several of our group prepare for the Grand Rapids National, we realize just how busy the month is going to be. The clinic for July will be presented by Ken Raymond on Constructing an N Scale layout and shows what can be done with that scale. Keep in mind that a good plan can work in any scale depending upon the size of the area you have to work with.

For the first time we will have not one, not two but three home layouts offered this month for your viewing pleasure, Tom Robinson's fantastic S Scale layout, the N Scale layout of Ken Raymond and the HO layout of John Travis. Three layouts, three scales all for you!

The theme this month is passenger cars so bring along your favorite piece of varnish to show and tell about. Remember too that this month's meeting will be at the Elks Lodge. Work continues on the Operations program planned for later on this year and coordinated by Milt Burge. We are looking into putting an excursion together for later on this year as well so stay tuned for more information.

For those who are venturing to Grand Rapids for the NMRA National, it will be a working convention. The Division is committed to run the silent auction, a tune up for the one we will be doing here in Atlanta next year for our convention. If you are going to Grand Rapids and haven't

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Operations - cont.

already done so, you might want to lend a hand if you can. It should be an interesting convention. Till next month, may all your signals be green.

Personnel/Membership - Paul Rankin

Paul Rankin distributed data collected during the six month dual meeting location period, which was discussed during the meeting. See old Business for additional information.

Charlie Crawford entertained a motion to approve all officer reports. Seconded by Howard Goodwin. Motion passed.

Committee Reports

Member Aid - Bob McIntyre – Had a non NMRA member contact me regarding a tinsplate set of trains. She received them from her grandfather. She wanted to sell them and get an appraisal. I directed her to Legacy Station. I had a digital question regarding the Digitrax BDL-168 detection board. I wanted to change the board address but it would not. I got help from Ovidiu and he said the board needed to be connected to the Loconet to be able to change the address.

Piedmont Pilgrimage – All the layouts are in place for the tour. The number is over 80! Currently working on soliciting Operator Assistants. We are soliciting Pike Ads. Weave advertising commitments for all advertisers from last year with the exception of Chic-Fil-A. Have received checks from HO Hobbies, Blue OX Trains, and Free Time Hobbies.

A price increase for pike ads was considered but will remain at \$10.00.

Achievement Program – Two Golden Spike Awards will be handed out during the July meeting. Bill Raymond will receive his Chief Dispatcher Certificate at the July meeting. Perry Lamb will receive his Electrical Certificate. We have agreed to conduct the Train in Camp in August. The date is the 25th.

2013 National Convention – The meeting minutes are available from our June meeting. The highlights are the following: The model RR layout tours are complete. This is from the fine job by Gary Jarabek and George Bloodworth. The framework is in place for the prototype and non-rail tours. These will need to be firmed up in the upcoming months. Our registration number is in the mid 200's. We will have our membership booth at Grand Rapids and we are anticipating more sign ups during the convention week. The committee has agreed to use Atlas for the convention car. We are still looking for additional layouts for The Operating SIG. These do not need to be complex operating schemes to sign up. We still need to iron out the bus situation. The NMRA will cut the contracts. We need to get the cost so we can price out the tours more effectively. We have a plan in place for sponsors but we need to execute it. We are also looking at a canvas bag for each conventioneer. We have not decided on one but we are looking at quality and vs. cost.

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Timetable - Doug Alexander

437 copies of the 3rd Quarter **Timetable** were mailed on Friday, July 6th.

Individual and family members 373
New Members 7
Lapsed Members 20
Complimentary 37

7 members received their copies via email

The following Hobby stores received copies

American Hobby Supply 25
Blue Ox Trains 50
Riverdale Station 50
Hobbytown - Kennesaw 100
TrainMaster Models – 100

There are 30 copies left from the original printing. I want to acknowledge and honor the great work of Mr. Bob Wood, who picked up the envelopes from my house, purchased and affixed the stamps, picked up the newsletters, stuffed and sealed the envelopes and got them to the Post Office while I was out of town. He also then drove over 160 miles delivering the newsletter to the above mentioned hobby shops. I am very fortunate that such a dedicated and conscientious member is willing and able to assist me in this way.

Also, I want to thank Bob and Peter Youngblood for their tremendous help in quickly proofreading the newsletter so that I could get it to the printer on time.

Website - Scott Povlot

Scott distributed a report prior to the meeting. The report summarizes June 2012 website traffic.

Advertising and Promotion/Division Apparel - Gary Jarabek

Advertising:

Monthly Meetings

- NMRA submitted through October 2012 Issue
- Railroad Model Craftsman submitted through October 2012 Issue.
- Trains.com submitted through July 2012
- September notice refers to website for meeting location. October notice is Tucker location
Trains.com will be submitted after July meeting.

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.
- Putty polo shirts only 2XL remain at the price of \$33.00.
- Blue polo shirts are in stock. Complete size range (med to 3XL). An order has been placed to maintain complete size range.
- Med to 2XL available in long sleeve denim shirts. .
- Caps are also in stock.
- Mugs will be distributed to new NMRA members.

Aprons

- A few are in stock for future requests (denim and canvas)

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Good and Welfare –Joe Gelmini

- Ovidiu and Mickey Trifanescu welcomed the birth of their second daughter.
- Keith Williams' mother passed away.

Model Train Show –Joe Gelmini

A second hall was considered for the 2014 show. The second hall would double costs, so the show will rent one hall in 2014. The dates have been penciled in for 2014 but cannot be officially scheduled until 12 months prior to the event.

Boy Scout Merit Badge Program (Duluth) - John Stevens

The next program will be held at the SERM on September 22.

Boy Scout Merit Badge Program (Kennesaw) - Bill Ello

We have the following date SCHEDULES AND FIRMED UP for for programs at the Kennesaw Museum.

Aug 18 -- IN PROCESS

Dec 8 - Add'l Winter Program -- FIRM

Feb 9 2013 -- New Schedule / Rotation Date -- FIRM

In addition the Museum has provided Jan 19 2013 as the scheduled and FIRM date for TRAINS TRAINS TRAINS.

I wrote and sent our "DECLINE MEMO" to the Museum for the July 16-20 Summer time "Camper Program" with the time constraint condition created by a short notification period (per discussions).

I have an additional meeting at the museum to get the Kennesaw Rules and Regulations we should be aware of for our Clinic Programs. Part of this discussion will be the Museum's Website references to Scouting Programs (BOY and GIRL). As of a week ago no information was available on these programs. This website could be a good place to advertise out Clinics with Email or Website Link.

For the ONGOING AUG 18 Program:

ID and I have discussed how to handle the finances for the Kennesaw Program. He will have our working budget / finance outline in hand.

June 20 all the Invitations to the Service Area 2 (Pickens, Cherokee, Cobb, Paulding, Douglas, Haralson and Carroll Counties) for a total of Seven BSA District were sent to Top Three District Personnel, DEs and Advancement Chairs as available.

Our Open Registration Period is July 2 to 23 for a potential clinic size of 24 slots. Twelve Courtesy Invitations we sent out on July 2 to TWELVE Units who were on our Winter Program "Standby" List (potential of 36 registered boys).

During ONE WEEK of open registration we have had SIX UNITS (17 Boys) sent intentions to participate. We have received THREE Paper Registrations and Checks for Eight Scouts. We are well on schedule to fill our Clinic.

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Audio-Visual Production & Promotion Committee-Peter Youngblood, MMR

Nothing new to report.

Name Badges - James Bando

No name tags produced in the last two months.

Division Video Library - David Gelmini

Nothing new to report.

Division Book Library - Stephen Leydon

Nothing new to report.

Volunteer Coordinator - Walt Liles

Nothing new to report.

Old Business

Dual Meeting Locations - Charlie Crawford, MMR

Gary Jarabek made a motion to end alternating meeting locations immediately and hold Board of Directors and general meetings in Tucker. Seconded by Paul Rankin.

A discussion took place concerning the results of the trial based on the original proposal and question of petitioning the general membership concerning the move.

Motion passed.

This item will be discussed during the Special Planning Meeting.

Gary Jarabek made a motion that the savings account be renamed *Facilities Reserve*. The funds in this account could be used for other purposes. Seconded by Bill Zawacki. Motion passed.

Gary Jarabek made a motion to transfer an additional \$5,000 into the account.

After discussion the motion was amended to transfer an additional \$5,000 into the account after the Grand Rapids Convention.

Jarabek made a motion to accept the amended motion. Seconded by Howard Goodwin. Motion passed.

Operations Jamboree (Howard Goodwin)

Howard Goodwin is in the process of planning Operations Jamboree for 2012. Milt Burge will assist with this program. The jamboree will be held in September or October 2012, with dates to be determined.

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A/P Class - Peter Youngblood, MMR

The next AP class will be held August 25, 2012 at HobbyTown USA in Kennesaw. An agenda will be established well prior to the event.

Storage Unit - Charlie Crawford

Monthly rental on the storage unit near the Elk's Lodge in Tucker increased from month on April 1. Based on Charlie Crawford's and John Stevens' review of storage space at the museum, it was decided that the layout would be moved and placed in the storage unit September 22. A decision is due on continuing to rent storage space for remaining items in storage.

Credit card / Auction

James Bando distributed the latest version of the Auction Software System to be used at Grand Rapids (and future auctions and consignment sales). Bill Z. was going to load it on the laptop he has and evaluate the software.

New Business

Loans to Peachtree Express - I.D. Jackson

Jackson made a motion for Board approval of loans to the Peachtree Express committee without separate BOD approval for each loan. Seconded by David Gelmini. Motion passed.

Superintendent Crawford entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by many.

The Meeting Adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Rick Coble, Director of Administration