

PIEDMONT DIVISION BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING REPORT AUGUST 14, 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, MMR, Rick Coble, Bob McIntyre, Walt Liles, I.D. Jackson, Howard Goodwin, Bill Zawacki, MMR, Gary Jarabek, Mike Deaton, Peter Youngblood, MMR, Scott Chatfield, Joe Sullivan, Paul Rankin

Absent (1): David Gelmini

Quorum Present

Committee Chairs, Division Members, and Visitors Present *as taken from the sign-in sheet* (24): Perry Lamb, Doug Alexander, Bob Wood, Joe Nichols, Sr., MMR, Del Kittendorf, Diane Kittendorf, Randall Watson, Earl Mayfield, Victor Pitrowski, Lenny Polinsky, John Travis, Ken Raymond, Norm Lundin, John Witherspoon, Joe Surowiec, Ron Gough, MMR, Mike Scupin, Tom Banks, Bill Smith, Joe Gelmini, Stephen Leydon, John Stevens, Joe Nichols, JR., Scott Povlot

Officer and Director Reports

Administration—Rick Coble

Nothing new to report.

Howard Goodwin made a motion that the Board of Directors approves the minutes of the July meeting. Second by Gary Jarabek. Motion passed.

Finance—I.D. Jackson

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

In response to a question from Bob McIntyre, Treasurer Jackson clarified reported revenue and expenses for the most recent auction.

Charlie Crawford motioned that the Board of Directors approve the July Financial report. Second by Bill Zawacki. Motion passed.

Operations—Howard Goodwin

All is progressing in the Operations arena. All clinics and home layout tours are scheduled for the year. This month, rather than the usual home layout tour following our meeting this coming weekend, a flea market has been scheduled for the First Presbyterian Church in Marietta on August 25th as was reported earlier. The hours will be from 8-4 with free admission to all NMRA who show their NMRA membership card at the door. For those non-NMRA members, or those NMRA members who do not provide their membership card, the cost will be 10 dollars. You can bring your own tables if you wish to see items or tables can be purchased for 20 dollars each. Anyone can buy sell or trade as they wish. Refreshments will be available. Come on out and have some fun, bring your experienced stuff and look for something to replace it! I hope to see you there!

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Operations - cont.

I am looking for clinicians and home layout tours for next year, 2013. Keeping in mind that we will be hosting the NMRA convention in July, I don't expect to have a home layout tour that month. If you are interested in hosting a home layout tour next year, I would like to hear from you. The same goes for the monthly clinic program. I would like to hear from you. The closer we get to convention time, the busier we will become. I have a feeling that the time will fly. I am still working on getting information for an excursion tour most likely out of TVRM or Smokey Mountains. More will follow later. Until then, may all your signals be green.

Note: Please see Old Business for information on the 2012 Operations Jamboree and New Business for information on division participation in the 2012 Family Block Party.

Personnel/Membership - Paul Rankin

Membership Chair Paul Rankin distributed a summary of 2012 attendance via email.

The Piedmont Division Membership Booth was staffed at the Golden Spike show the Saturday prior to the BOD meeting.

Committee Reports

Member Aid - Bob McIntyre

I will be assisting Dave Rederer on his layout next week again. He wants some help on possibly using Digitax on his layout. Not directly related to the Piedmont Division I have been corresponding with individuals on Yahoo Groups. I am a member of the Pennsylvania RR modelers group. I have posted questions regarding Lewistown. Have received information on structures that I will be scratch building.

Bob recommended Yahoo groups as an excellent resource for research and assistance from other modelers.

Piedmont Pilgrimage - Bob McIntyre

The Committee is working on getting in the ads for the Pilgrimage Booklet. We also need a few checks from the advertisers. We are currently soliciting for operator assistants to help the layout owners during their open houses.

Achievement Program – Bob McIntyre

This month we will be handing out a Golden Spike Award and Bill Raymond's Chief Dispatcher's Certificate.

2013 National Convention – Bob McIntyre

There is not a big change from last month because we did not have a meeting in July due to the National Convention. One big item is we are having Scott Chatfield obtaining bus quotes that we can submit to the NMRA for finalization. With the bids we can more accurately price out our tours. We are also asking for a quote on the eight page spread in the February 2013 NMRA Magazine for our Convention promo. There is going to be a change in the NMRA Convention management. We will update as more becomes available.

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2013 National Convention – cont.

Charlie Crawford reported that volunteers registered approximately 80 individuals at Grand Rapids.

Timetable - Doug Alexander

Next issue is due in the mail NLT October 1. The submission deadline is August 28.

Website - Scott Povlot

Scott distributed a report prior to the meeting highlighting July 2012 website activity.

Advertising and Promotion/Division Apparel - Gary Jarabek

Advertising:

Monthly Meetings

- NMRA submitted through November 2012 Issue
- Railroad Model Craftsman submitted through November 2012 Issue.
- Trains.com submitted through November 2012

September notice refers to website for meeting location. October notice is Tucker

Piedmont Pilgrimage:

- NMRA submitted for October and November
- Railroad Model Craftsman Submitted for October and November

Company Store:

- There are only 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).
- 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)

Good and Welfare –Joe Gelmini

- One sympathy card (loss of mother)
- One get well card (surgery recovery) sent during last month.

Model Train Show –Joe Gelmini

Nothing new to report.

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Boy Scout Merit Badge Program (Duluth) - John Stevens

Last Saturday, I opened registration for the September session in Duluth. I have filled the session and have started to receive the registration fees. I will be scheduling counselors in the next few weeks.

Boy Scout Merit Badge Program (Kennesaw) - Bill Ello

We have 23 registered and paid up Scout for the Aug 18 BSA Clinic at Kennesaw. I am presently working to confirm staff for the day's event.

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

The Audio-Visual Production & Promotion Committee received a request from Steve Prevette, SER Registrar, to provide a Piedmont Division projector for clinic use at the Aiken, SC "Mini-meet" September 29, 2012. The A/V team will honor the request and will gladly consider any other requests that may be solicited before then.

Name Badges - James Bando

One name tag this month.

Division Video Library - David Gelmini

I am still getting the VHS tapes from Howard copied to DVD and should have several in the library by September.

Division Book Library - Stephen Leydon

There is no change to the Library circulation since I was unable to attend the last meeting. Several additions to the library have been made over the past two months. Some are annual magazines, some are donations, and some are MR special editions.

Volunteer Coordinator - Walt Liles

Nothing new to report.

Peter Youngblood made a motion to accept all committee reports. Second by I.D. Jackson. Motion passed.

Old Business

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 announced at the August meeting. Additionally, Operators and hosts will be solicited at the meeting.

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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. Peter Youngblood reports that everything is set for the class.

This may be a registration opportunity for Peachtree Express. Hobbytown USA has given us permission to set up the booth for Saturday and Sunday. The division will take the booth to HobbyTown USA.

Storage Unit - Charlie Crawford

Rental on the storage unit near the Elk's Lodge in Tucker has increased from \$55 to \$70 per month. 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. The division plans on ending rental 9/30/12.

Credit card / Auction - Bill Zawacki

Our software worked flawlessly. Thanks to James Bando. We had some problems with the printers that ID brought that I believe is a configuration problem that we couldn't find while we were there. We noted some items that we will implement for the silent auction in 2013, they are:

- Large signs explaining that the initial bid is \$5.00 and incremental bids are \$1.00.
- When opening time is and when the auction closes
- Procedure for buyers and sellers
- Closing time for the auction to pick up merchandise and payouts.
- Numbering of tables so bidders can find the items they bid on
- Fixes to the software to provide snapshot reports of total items and participants

All in all we handled the auction very well and were praised by the general public. We did not make money on the auction because of the hotel and travel costs.

New Business

August Swap Meet - Charlie Crawford

Superintendent Charlie Crawford led a discussion concerning Division responsibilities and participation in the August 25th swap meet announced by Howard Goodwin at the July General Meeting and summarized in the August Operations Report.

Room rental for the auction is \$202.00 which requires Board approval as it exceeds the approval limit for the Superintendent and Director of Finance. Crawford entertained a motion that the Division spends \$202.00 for room rental. No motion was made. The Division will not provide funding for the swap meet.

Family Block Party - Howard Goodwin

The annual Family Block Party will be held October 13, 2012 at Mercer University. This is also the first day for the Piedmont Pilgrimage. Walt Liles noted that Family Block Party is a huge undertaking for the division as it requires transportation, set up of a display layout or Kid's

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Family Block Party - cont.

Operating layout and constant supervision by division members. Based on the demographics of attendees at the event, Walt asked if this event meets the focus of the Division. Gary Jarabek made a motion that the Piedmont Division not participate in the 2012 Family Block Party. Second by Scott Chatfield. Motion passed.

Strategic Planning Meeting - Charlie Crawford

Charlie Crawford scheduled the Strategic Planning Meeting December 2, 2012 after the 2012 elections so newly elected BOD members may attend.

NMRA Elections- Joe Gelmini

Joe Gelmini reported on 2013 NMRA elections. Mike Brestel, former NMRA president, is running for a Director position. Many feel that the same individuals fill different positions in the Association, moving between positions but remaining on the Board. Gelmini and others would like to place more names on the ballot.

SER member Larry Smith, MMR is interested in running for a Director's position. To place his name on the ballot, a group of 60 members, with no more than 30 from the SER, must be submitted to the NMRA Secretary. Gelmini would like to obtain signatures supporting Larry Smith.

Charlie Crawford entertained a motion to adjourn. Motion made by I.D. Jackson. Second by Joe Sullivan. Motion passed.

The Meeting Adjourned at 6:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Rick Coble, Director of Administration