

PIEDMONT DIVISION, BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

August 8, 2017

Meeting called to order at 1805 p.m., Holy Innocents' Episcopal Church, Sandy Springs, GA by Walt Liles, Superintendent.

Board Members Present: Perry Lamb, John Falk, Joe Sullivan, Alan Mole, Walt Liles, Jim Travis, Royal Bruce, Mike Cummings, Peter Youngblood, David Gelmini

Board members absent: Mike Fleming, Steve Funsten, Norm Lundin, Brian Sandberg

Quorum Present

Committee Chairs, Division Members, and Visitors Present *as taken from the sign-in sheet*: Randall Watson, Regis Brooks, Martin Guldner, Sally Bando, John Stevens, Howard Goodwin, James Bando, Jim Warner, Joe Nicholas Sr., Scott Povlot, Thomas Lloyd, Bob Kelshaw, Chuck Hoesch, Tyler Gelmini, Joe Gelmini, Charlie Mason

Officer and Director Reports

Administration – Mike Fleming: Minutes from the July meeting were read in Mike Fleming's absence. Motion to approve by Jim Travis, second by Alan Mole; Approved

Finance – Joe Sullivan: The payment for reimbursement for the last Timetable has been returned. The check for \$200.00 for the Lego layout has been written off, the check has not been cashed. \$1,600.00 for the ad for the EMC Magazine has been written. Motion to approve by Alan Mole, second by Jim Travis; Approved

Operations - Royal Bruce: Report presented by email. Peter Youngblood and Joe Gelmini were present at the 2017 NMRA BOD Meeting. The 2017 picnic was well attended and attendees included a number of spouses.

Personnel/Membership – Mike Cummings: 485 members + for the Piedmont Division. The Membership Booth will be present for the show in August. Board Members, please introduce yourself to new members at the monthly meetings.

Committee Reports

Website - Scott Povlot: Report submitted via Email

Pilgrimage, Advertising, and Promotion/Division Apparel - Gary Jarabek: Report submitted via Email.

Achievement Program – Charles Mason: Charles is replacing Randall Watson. Randall, thank you for your support of the Division and its AP Activities over the past years. There has been a recent layout visit. Paperwork for the Scenery certificate has been prepared for an outstanding layout. Two more certificates are outstanding. October is contest month.

Good and Welfare – Chuck & Mary Ann Hoesch: Report emailed.

2018 Model Train Show – Joe Gelmini, MMR: Not much new for the 2018 Train Show. Parking is the biggest issue with the Galleria. There is no contract for the 2018 show; it is "on its way". There is a new cleanup charge of \$600.00 to \$700.00 for the Galleria. Mike Cummings is looking at the Avalon in Alpharetta. The staff there is very interested in hosting our show and in selling hotel rooms to potential

vendors, volunteers and staff. The location is a Marriot Signature Property and the hotel has been added to the convention center property. We have been invited to tour the facility on a "hard hat" tour. The new facility is 22,000 ft². The request from the site today (The day of the Division BOD Meeting), was for a potential room count. Currently, no vendors stay at the Galleria and only limited staff stay there. We need a price for the convention center in order to make a decision and are looking for a price in the area of \$20,000. This appears to be a good place to host a show with plenty of free parking, places to eat and plenty of shopping.

The Galleria is still trying to figure out the issue of parking. It may be as long as 30 – 45 days until a decision is reached. Hopefully a decision will be reached by August 25th, 2017. Hopefully we can negotiate a rate with the Galleria. Potential option would be for the Division to reimburse vendors, staff and volunteers at a potential cost of \$2,500.00.

Boy Scout Merit Badge Program (Duluth and Kennesaw) – Howard Goodwin, MMR: The next BSA class is 10/7/2017 in Duluth. Howard still needs volunteer counselors in order to not run short for individual classes. Please volunteer.

Audio-Visual Production & Promotion Committee: NTR

Name Badges & Photography - James Bando: Report submitted by Email

Division Video Library - David Gelmini: NTR

Division Book Library - Stephen Leyton: NTR

Model Railroad & Division Help – Ovidiu Trifanescu: NTR

Train'in Camp - Perry Lamb: The August class is full.

Outreach - Brain Sandberg: This group has been merged into the **Marketing Committee**. The new ad is in the works, and as previously noted, a check has been issues for the new ad in the EMC Magazine. The committee is looking for ways to keep the Division Web page fresh, "flashy" and up-to-date. Our logo should appear on everything we do. New letterhead is being developed, and new layout tour signs are being produced, featuring the logo. A request for \$1,500.00 was made to produce the new signs. Motion by Jim Travis, second by Alan Mole; Approved. 150 signs will be produced and the new signs should go in the front yard of tour homes and for Division activities.

Old Business

Pilgrimage – There are 68 layouts on tour. The schedule is on the Website. Pike ads are for sale. There is a need for a volunteer for the operator assistant program

501(c)3 – Close to having all the paperwork ready. It is hoped that it can be completed within a couple of weeks. The program by NMRA National for Divisions is dead.

New Business

Small tool Raffle – A small raffle is being proposed. Tickets would cost a dollar. Motion to allow for the purchase of small tool sets or other products made by Jim Travis, second by David Gelmini; Approved

The NMRA will be announcing a Partnership Program on August 7 providing discounts to NMRA Members. Log in to the NMRA Members Only Web page then look in the Partnership Page for more information.

Any Other Business

None.

Meeting Adjournment: 1850

Respectfully submitted:

Perry Lamb