

PIEDMONT DIVISION BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING REPORT November 13, 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* (12): Rick Coble, Charlie Crawford, MMR, Howard Goodwin, Walt Liles, Peter Youngblood, MMR, Bill Zawacki, MMR, Scott Chatfield, Gary Jarabek, Joe Sullivan, Bob McIntyre, Mike Deaton, Paul Rankin

Absent (2): David Gelmini, I.D. Jackson

Quorum Present

Committee Chairs, Division Members, and Visitors Present *as taken from the sign-in sheet* (13): Rob Dodds, Del Kittendorf, Diane Kittendorf, Randall Watson, Greg Williams, Sally Bando, Ed Laity, Ron Gough, MMR, Norm Lundin, Perry Lamb, Chris White, Joe Gelmini, Len Polinsky

Officer and Director Reports

Administration—Rick Coble

Rick has most, but not all, updated committee rosters. He would like to update rosters prior to the transition to the next Director of Administration.

Bill Zawacki, MMR made a motion to accept the minutes of the October 2012 Board of Directors meeting. Seconded by Peter Youngblood, MMR. Motion passed.

Finance—I.D. Jackson

Treasurer Jackson distributed the October financial report prior to the meeting. He was not available to answer questions concerning the report. The Board will vote on approval of the report in January, 2013.

Operations—Howard Goodwin

Everything is progressing nicely on the Operations front. While I am still looking for folks to come forward for next year's program, I am making progress. If you have done clinics in the past, be prepared for a call from me, likewise those of you who have home layouts. One item of recent interest is the possible outreach program at the Goshen Valley Boys Ranch.

Earlier this month, Dick Hillman and I visited the Boys Ranch to ascertain what is being requested. It was determined that there is a usable space in one of the buildings in which an O Scale (Lionel) layout could be built. The space is approximately 20 X 10 in a basement. What is being requested are people to help plan and build this layout. The materials for the benchwork will be provided by the Boys Ranch. The Southern Museum in Kennesaw has donated a sizable amount of Lionel trains and track, possibly enough to commence the project once the benchwork is complete. It is envisioned as a "dogbone" layout configuration. Our help is also being requested in working with the youngsters in building the layout. There are also Boys Ranch personnel to help as well. It will be for all intent and purpose a joint venture. There will be a number of volunteers needed to help coordinate and work on this project. At this point, we need to determine if we would like to participate in this outreach program.

PIEDMONT DIVISION BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING REPORT November 13, 2012

Operations - continued

Peter Youngblood spoke with Jim Dorsett. Jim will ask if his O Scale Club wants to participate.

Walt Liles asked if a budget has been established. Howard Goodwin replied that no budget has been established. Del Kittendorf asked if the division will have a continuing responsibility to maintain the layout after completion. Howard Good replied "no".

Walt Liles made a motion that the Piedmont Division provides financial and manpower assistance to the Goshen Valley Boys Ranch in construction of their O Scale layout predicated on more information which Howard Goodwin will solicit. Seconded by Peter Youngblood. Motion passed.

The next division auction is scheduled for February 16, 2013 at First Presbyterian Church in Marietta. Howard Goodwin made a motion that the division pays for room rental costs for the February 2013 auction. Seconded by Peter Youngblood. Motion passed.

Personnel/Membership - Paul Rankin

Paul Rankin reported that we had 96 attendees at the October meeting, including one visitor.

The last weekend of the month was the 2-day Great Train Expo at the North Atlanta Trade Center. It was fairly well attended, but faced lots of competition from college and pro football, as well as being on a Pilgrimage weekend. We signed up 4 new members, and at least one former member got his application to renew. Two of the four new members signed up for the Railpass.

All in all, it was a productive month. Paul distributed a summary of past meeting attendance prior to the meeting.

Committee Reports

Member Aid - Bob McIntyre

I have not received any requests for assistance. However, I did generate a question for Dr. Joe Sir, about passenger car lighting. I wanted to know about using capacitors for constant lighting. He provided a detailed response and was very helpful.

Achievement Program – Bob McIntyre

We had a very successful model contest last month. The number of general entries was small. However, with the addition of the outhouse contest the entries were quite good. The quality of the outhouse models was excellent. The winner was Peter Youngblood. His entry included sound! I am waiting to receive the Volunteer Certificate for Milt Burge. I understand that Joe Gelmini has completed the requirements for his Car Certificate. Bill Raymond has notified me that he is ready to have his layout judged for Scenery, Civil, and Electrical. Overall the interest in the program continues to be strong. I really appreciate the help from Randall Watson on the October Model Contest.

PIEDMONT DIVISION BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING REPORT November 13, 2012

Piedmont Pilgrimage - Bob McIntyre

The initial visitations started slow but they are picking up as we go deeper into the program. We have received the final advertiser payment from Chick-Fil-A. I have a donated Digitrax Zephyr system for auction at our November meeting. This will go towards Pilgrimage expenses.

2013 National Convention – Bob McIntyre

There is a lot going on and for complete coverage please refers to minutes from the October meeting. Here are highlights. We have preliminary bus costs. With these values we are now able to develop the costs for each tour. Due to the increase in fuel prices, especially diesel, the cost for the all day tours are going to be expensive. We are going to use a coordinator. This is adding 15% onto the cost of the buses but it is worth it for all the services we will receive. The prototype tours are completed. Many of them cannot be confirmed until the beginning of 2013. The General interest tours are finalized. Kathy Gelmini has put together an excellent mix of tours that will appeal to a good cross section of attendees. Peter Youngblood, MMR and his team have started solicitations of donations and gifts for the banquet. The clinic program is moving forward with a great many members signed up. He continues to look for local clinicians. We are trying to get the bag finalized so we can solicit advertisers for the side. We have received positive assistance from the Waverly on drink storage for the buses, movie night with popcorn, and table set up for the silent auction. The Piedmont Division will have full control of the company store. The NMRA will not participate with the store. The SIG program is moving forward without and key issues. The OPSIG program is still looking for operating layouts with the Piedmont Division.

We still have some negotiating issues outstanding. We need in writing that the Piedmont Division will be able to keep the 15% commission on all Silent Auction sales. From our meeting with James Lupfer, who is the new National Convention coordinator, we negotiated an improved % split from 20/80 to 50/50 percent of the convention profit. We need this in writing. We are also negotiating that we keep (in the existing contract) 8% of the National Trainshow profit. We need this in writing. I am the one following up on these issues.

Timetable - Doug Alexander

We mailed 455 copies of the Fall Timetable. Another 200 were delivered to hobby shops in the area, and 100 were delivered to the Division Display at the November train show (of which about half were the summer edition).

Deadline for submission for the Winter 2013 edition is Tuesday, November 27th.

Website - Scott Povlot

Scott reports 2065 page views during October 2012.

Advertising and Promotion/Division Apparel - Gary Jarabek

Advertising:

Monthly Meetings

NMRA submitted through February 2013 Issue

Railroad Model Craftsman submitted through February 2013 Issue.

Trains.com submitted through February 2013

PIEDMONT DIVISION BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING REPORT November 13, 2012

Advertising and Promotion/Division Apparel - continued

Piedmont Pilgrimage:

NMRA submitted for November
Railroad Model Craftsman Submitted for November

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.

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.

Vests are out of stock

Aprons

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

Good and Welfare –Joe Gelmini

- Card to Norm Lundin, recovering from major back surgery performed October 29. All going well as of now.
- Melody Knighton, wife of Peter Youngblood, MMR making great progress in recovery from double hip replacement done Oct 1 and Oct 17.
- Sympathy card to Bob and Halina Wheeler for the passing of Halina's mother.
- Bob and Halina Wheeler were in a car accident returning from the funeral of Halina's mother. Bob is currently in the hospital.

2014 Model Train Show –Joe Gelmini

Still awaiting reply from Galleria on confirmation of March dates, as well as pricing, for Exhibit Halls C&D for the 2014 Train Show. Joe estimates a 3% - 4% increase in rental space fees.

Boy Scout Merit Badge Program (Duluth) - John Stevens

We had two layouts operating for the SERM Model Railroad Days. We were constantly busy all day.

Boy Scout Merit Badge Program (Kennesaw) - Bill Ello

Registration for this Dec Workshop was opened last weekend. Within the period of one week we are half filled (13 Boys requested slots).

In addition I would like to clear a date for the August 2013 clinic with you due to potential time constraints due to the National Convention. The BOD directed Bill to select a date.

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

Norm Lundin, recovering from major back surgery performed October 29. All going well as of now.

PIEDMONT DIVISION BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING REPORT November 13, 2012

Name Badges - James Bando

James reports two names made since the October division meeting.

Division Video Library - David Gelmini

We added 4 new DVDs to the collection and we added 6 new copies VHS to DVD movies. Still have many tapes to copy to DVD. I will need to purchase more DVD blanks and printing materials next month so I need to verify my available budget. David's budget is \$200 which will cover materials.

Division Book Library - Stephen Leydon

No report.

Volunteer Coordinator - Walt Liles

No report.

Old Business

Strategic Planning Meeting - Charlie Crawford, MMR

Due to scheduling issues, the date of the Strategic Planning Meeting is tentatively set for January 6, 2013.

Outreach Project – Goshen Valley Boys Ranch – Howard Goodwin

See detailed information about the project in the Director of Operations report.

Based on a motion by the Board of Directors, Piedmont Division will provide financial and manpower assistance to the Goshen Valley Boys Ranch in construction of their O Scale layout predicated on more information which Howard Goodwin will solicit.

MMRs on the Division Website – Randall Watson

Randall Watson suggested adding photos of our four newest Master Model Railroaders to the Division website. Greg Williams took a photo of the four new MMRs at the October meeting and has forwarded it to Scott Povlot. Scott will add the photo to the website. The photo was not on the website as of the meeting. Bob McIntyre will follow up with Scott.

Division Website/Calendar Meeting Information – Peter Youngblood, MMR

Peter Youngblood, MMR asked that the currency and content of website event information be improved.

Currency will be addressed as Howard Goodwin, Director of Operations, will send the schedule to webmaster Scott Povlot as soon as it is ready. Scott will continue to update the website.

Additional calendar event detail will be added by the appropriate parties.

**PIEDMONT DIVISION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING REPORT
November 13, 2012**

New Business

Piedmont Pilgrimage Attendance by Children

Bob McIntyre, Peter Youngblood, MMR, and Gary Jarabek discussed the need for supervision by parents to ensure acceptable behavior by children at home layouts. Also discussed was a possible addition to the Pilgrimage booklet concerning proper behavior at layouts and use of layout assistants to encourage and make acceptable behavior happen.

Peter Youngblood, MMR has written the addition for next year's Pilgrimage booklet.

Elections

Annual elections will be held at the general meeting.

Trains! Trains! Trains! (Walt Liles)

Division participation in Trains! Trains! Trains! has been confirmed for January 19, 2013. The division needs to decide details of participation.

Meeting Time Start (Mike Deaton)

Mike Deaton suggested moving the actual start time of the general meeting to the historical start time of approximately 7:05. Members are not always able to arrive by 7:00.

Board Meeting Minutes to membership (Randall Watson)

Randall Watson asked that minutes of the board meetings be distributed to division members upon request. Rick Coble will add requestors to the approved minutes distribution list and speak with the next Director of Administration concerning this matter.

Division supported model railroad layout at the NE Georgia Medical Center (John Travis)

John Travis asked for a volunteer to assist with maintenance of the division supported layout at pediatric wing of Northeast Georgia Medical Center. Maintenance is required by the hospital. Bob Wheeler is unavailable for an unknown period of time. John will ask for volunteers at the general meeting.

Division Facebook Page (Walt Liles)

Walt Liles suggested that the division make a stronger emphasis on using the division Facebook page. Facebook can be quickly updated by more individuals and will attract younger potential members. Walt volunteered to do a Facebook clinic.

**PIEDMONT DIVISION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING REPORT
November 13, 2012**

Peter Youngblood, MMR made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by many.

Meeting adjourned at 6:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Rick Coble, Director of Administration