

PIEDMONT DIVISION, BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

August 12th, 2014

Meeting called to order at 6:05 p.m., Old Hickory House, Tucker, GA by Peter Youngblood, MMR, Superintendent.

Board Members Present (12): Peter Youngblood, MMR, Gary Jarabek, Chris White, Joe Sullivan, Walt Liles, Alan Mole, Norman Lundin, Joe Nichols, Jr., MMR, Chuck Hoesch, Scott Chatfield, Perry Lamb, David Gelmini and Charlie Crawford, MMR.

Board members absent (1): Paul Rankin

Quorum Present

Committee Chairs, Division Members, and Visitors Present *as taken from the sign-in sheet (27)*

Randall Watson, Del and Diane Kittendorf, James and Sally Bando, Joe Gelmini, MMR, Bill Zawacki, MMR, Steve Funsten, Tom Banks, Mike Deaton, Doug Alexander, Paul Voelker, Rick Coble, Ovidiu Trifanescu, Dr. Joe Nichols, Sr., MMR, Robert Hess, Joe and Dottie Maiuro, Len Polinsky, Victor Pitrotski, Tyler Gelmini, Bob Wood, Jim Travis, Joe Surowiec, Kevin Bush, William Smith and Scott Povlot,

Officer and Director Reports

Administration - Chris White.

The July 2014 Minutes indicated that the 2016 Raffle Layout was going to be an N scale layout. Walt Liles reminded the Board that the North Atlanta Rail Barons (NARB) Operating Group was planning to build an HO layout for the 2016 Show. The N scale layout maybe for 2017 – not yet decided. With this correction, the minutes were approved following a motion by Perry Lamb and seconded by Gary Jarabek.

Finance – Joe Sullivan Joe submitted a financial report by email for July 2014. Joe commented that there were excellent Pike Ad sales for the Pilgrimage Booklet due to an outstanding effort by George Bloodworth. In addition, he informed the Board that sales from the 2013 Convention Cars were now more than \$1000 above budget – an excellent effort by Alan Mole, Joe Gelmini, and others.

Joe presented a motion based on advice and input from our auditor and IRS Tax preparer – Mr. Elmer Wilson. This motion was tabled for the September meeting.

There was some discussion on our current 501 (c) 4 IRS status. Del Kittendorf informed the Board that he had heard that application for 501 (c) 3 was now much simpler. Joe Gelmini reminded the Board that the NMRA was actively pursuing their goal of having all Regions and Divisions of the NMRA approved as 501 (c) 3 entities ASAP. In fact trials were underway in some test Regions and Divisions. Charlie Crawford asked about Sales Tax payments and Joe Sullivan informed the Board they were for 2013 and included late fees. Following a motion by Scott Chatfield and seconded by Gary Jarabek, the July Financial Report was approved.

Operations—Walt Liles Report submitted by email. July was again an extremely busy month. Walt reviewed the schedule for the next few months.

Personnel/Membership - Paul Rankin – Paul submitted an email report. We had 104 attendees for the July meeting, increasing our 12-month rolling average to 102 attendees.

Committee Reports These reports had been emailed to all Board members. Peter Youngblood requested a motion to approve all Committee Reports as submitted. Motion submitted by Perry Lamb and seconded by Norm Lundin. Reports were approved.

There were no additional comments submitted by Committee Heads.

Timetable - Doug Alexander – Nothing to report.

Website - Scott Povlot – No report.

Pilgrimage, Advertising, and Promotion/Division Apparel - Gary Jarabek - Emailed report. Pilgrimage planning and preparation in full swing. George Bloodworth active with obtaining Pike Ad donations.

Achievement Program – Randall Watson Emailed report submitted.

Good and Welfare –Chuck & Mary Ann Hoesch – Three letter/cards were sent during the month.

2014 Model Train Show –Joe Gelmini Emailed report submitted. Flyers printed for August Train Show. We will not be using TV ads for the 2015 Train Show, but will be expanding our postcard mailing.

Boy Scout Merit Badge Program (Duluth) - John Stevens – Had opened registration for September program. 27 scouts signed up already.

Boy Scout merit Badge Program (Kennesaw) – Howard Goodwin – August program filled with 30 scouts having applied.

Audio-Visual Production & Promotion Committee-Peter Youngblood, MMR Nothing to report this month.

Name Badges & Photography - James Bando – Report submitted. Four name badges made.

Division Video Library - David Gelmini – Nothing to report.

Division Book Library - Stephen Leydon – Nothing to report.

Volunteer Coordinator - Walt Liles – Nothing to report

Convention Cars – Alan Mole – Report submitted. On hand as of August 11th – 24 HO and 77 N cars.

Member Aid – Ovidiu Trifanescu – Nothing to report.

Old Business

2014 Action List - Peter Youngblood had emailed the latest 2014 Action List to all Board members and Committee Heads. A very busy August and September planned. Boy Scout program in Kennesaw in August, Training Camp in August, Boy Scout program in Duluth in September, and the Railroad Prototype Modelers meet will be held 18-20th September, and there is a Mini-Meet in Huntsville, AL in late September. The Strategic Planning Meeting will now be held at Perry Lamb's church in Marietta on Saturday 4th October from 11.30 am to 2.00 pm.

Clinic DVD – Still a set of Power Point presentations. David Gelmini still making progress. Further discussions with Scott Povlot required.

Website Division Member Directory with Photos – No further action during the month. David, Walt, Joe Jr., and Scott P. to continue to investigate. Scott indicated not a major problem technically but how and when do we ask members to submit photos and brief profiles. Joe Nichols, Jr. asked for a survey of members present and a majority indicated their future participation.

Manchester Railroad Days – Walt Liles informed the Board that this event would take place on October 18th, and that the Division would be represented by volunteers – with the Division mini-membership booth.

Railroad Prototype Modelers Meet To be held in Marietta on 18th and 19th September

New Business

Division Website Walt Liles suggested that local vendors who assist our Division be allowed to make commercial announcements on the Division website. After some discussion it was agreed that the Division would permit announcements of general sales or events, but not specific sales by listed items. After a proposal by Joe Nichols, Jr. and seconded by David Gelmini, Walt's proposal to permit local vendors to use our website for general announcements was approved by the Board.

Family Block Party Walt informed the Board that we had been asked to participate in this event using our Kid's Layout. Following some discussion it was agreed that we would pass.

NMRA Board Meeting Joe Gelmini summarized the Board Meeting held at the NMRA Meeting in Cleveland. The NMRA was considering registering in Missouri, but Ohio has apparently modified their requirements and the decision has been made to remain registered in Ohio. The NMRA will be testing changing some Regions and Divisions to 501 (c) status immediately. Joe commented on an apparent stalemate regarding the Gallery Exhibit in the California Museum. The NMRA website has been updated. The NMRA Home Depot build a 4x4 model is now dead – although still continuing in the Piedmont Division per NARB. There was apparently minimal discussion on the retaining of the membership.

Joe Sullivan proposed and Joe Nichols, Jr. seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. Confirmed by acclamation and the **Meeting was adjourned at 6.54p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,
Chris White, Director of Administration