

PIEDMONT DIVISION BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

JULY 13, 2021

Meeting called to order at 6:06 PM by Superintendent Perry Lamb at the Governors Gun Club--Kennesaw.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Doug Alexander, Sally Bando, Jim Datka, Gary Fish, Jim Foley, Steve Funsten (online), Jim Hobbs, Bob Kelshaw, Perry Lamb, Walt Lilies, Hank Primas, Raymond Stewart (online), Peter Thomas, Jim Travis - **QUORUM PRESENT**

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: none

COMMITTEE CHAIRS, DIVISION MEMBERS AND VISITORS PRESENT: Russ Bundy, Rick Coble, Howard Goodwin MMR, Jerry Michnewicz MMR, Jack Spangler, Bob Wood

OFFICER AND DIRECTOR REPORTS

SUPERINTENDENT – Perry Lamb: August Division meeting to be held at Holy Innocent's Church contingent on the facilities ability to present the online clinic. Perry reminded everyone attending July 17 picnic to confirm with him so hamburgers and hot dog purchases can be adequately planned. Clinic at month's end has only a few registrations.

ADMINISTRATION – Jim Datka: MINUTES from the June 8, 2021 submitted. Motion to approve Jim Travis; Seconded by Bob Kelshaw. Approved.

FINANCE – Jim Foley: IRS has sent letter rescinded \$2640 penalty for late filing of 2019 tax forms. Hand-off of TIAA accounts complete; Jim Foley, Perry Lamb and Jim Datka have access. Transition from online Quickbooks (\$15/month) to Quicken complete. Report sent. Motion to approve Jim Foley; Seconded by Jim Travis. Approved.

OPERATIONS – Sally Bando: Report sent. Holy Innocent's Church has increased fee for meeting space from \$300 to \$450. Bring and Brag to commence with September meeting. Upcoming clinics and events:

July 17—Piedmont Division Picnic: Dallas Landing Park Pavilion, 5120 Allatoona Dr, Acworth

July 31—Virtual TRAIN 'N CAMP: BUILDING A WOOD STRUCTURE KIT

August 6-8—TRAINS, TRUCKS AND TRACTORS at the Southeastern Museum in Duluth

August 10—Piedmont Division Clinic: Michelle Kempema, Executive Director of the Model Train Museum in Colorado on their 5,500 square foot operating model railroad

August 28—GOLDEN SPIKE at Infinity Energy Center in Duluth

September 9-13—SER CONVENTION "Swamp Rabbit Express" in Greenville, SC

September 11—MODEL TRAIN EXPO at Chatsworth Depot

September 14— Piedmont Division Clinic: Mac McCann, MODELERS DP AIRBRUSH PAINT BY MODELERS DECALS AND PAINT LLC. Bring and Brag: CAR ARTWORK

September 16-18—L&N CONVENTION at Hilton Garden Inn in Cartersville

September 25—LIVE! TRAIN 'N CAMP: SCENERY CONSTRUCTION

September 25—ATLANTA TOY AND MODEL TRAIN SHOW at VFW Post in Acworth

October 2—North Georgia Live Steamers train rides in Conyers

October 2-3—PIEDMONT TRAIN SHOW in Cartersville

October 2-3—Possible train show in Asheville or Fletcher, NC

October 12—Piedmont Division Clinic: John Bost, WEATHERING

October 24— Open Streets Emory Village

November 9—Piedmont Division Clinic: Pete Silcox video, CLINCHFIELD RIGHT OF WAY

November 20—North Georgia Live Steamers train rides in Conyers

December 4—ATLANTA TOY AND MODEL TRAIN SHOW at VFW Post in Acworth

December 11-12—FESTIVAL OF TRAINS at Tellus Museum, Cartersville

December 14—Piedmont Division HOLIDAY PARTY

PERSONNEL/MEMBERSHIP – Gary Fish: Email sent to lapsed members and will follow up with phone calls. Working with SER to correct bad info on member database. Reduced number of expired memberships in June from 26 to 15. Additional 20 memberships coming due in July.

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Booked two tables plus space for Ambassador layout at August 28th Golden Spike show at Gas South Energy in Duluth. Staffing sign up forms circulated at meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

WEBSITE – Bob Kelshaw, Rick Coble: Preliminary design for the Train Show website have been reviewed and several changes will be requested. Overall looks very good.

PILGRIMAGE – Mike Deaton: Report sent. Expect about 50 layouts on 2021 Tour. The Pilgrimage will start Saturday, October 23rd and run through Sunday, November 21st. Joe Sullivan is organizing the tour schedule; we may leave some Sunday mornings open. Craig Knox has the list of 10 new video shoots needed. Last year's videos remain on YouTube but not be part of 2021 program. Plan to release all videos on the first day of the Pilgrimage. Tom Gordon will be handling the sign-ups for operator assistants.

ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM – Charlie Mason: Mike Cummings has earned the Association Official AP Certificate. Mike has also completed all the requirements for the Structures AP Certificate. He now has earned five certificates.

GOOD AND WELFARE – Chuck & Mary Ann Hoesch: NTR.

2021 MODEL TRAIN SHOW – Hank Primas: TRAIN SHOW is progressing well but still no response from large vendors from previous shows. Changes in the model train industry and train shows were discussed at length, recognizing many vendors have become inactive. General expectation is that fewer and smaller vendors are expected. Train shows may begin focusing more on income from attendees than from vendor tables. The switch from the Galleria to lower cost Cartersville positions us well for this shift.

Timing of the 2022 show was discussed, if we should return to March or continue with October as we will need to reserve dates. The possibility of having shows in both months was discussed. Division staffing for two shows may be an issue, but it was agreed that the modular layout people would probably welcome an additional date. It was felt that most attendees bring their families to see model trains rather than buy them, so a focus on layouts over vendors may make financial sense.

The Tellus Museum's December Festival of Trains is likely to be an annual event. This is an opportunity to support marketing a March show.

MARKETING – Sally Bando: Report sent. Georgia Magazine calendar includes Pilgrimage and Train Show. Also included in flyer for SER Convention goody packets. Working on Train Show ads for Cartersville area.

TRAIN 'N CAMP - Perry Lamb: The July 31st BUILDING A WOOD STRUCTURE KIT will be held virtually and conducted by Bar Mills staff. Station kit will be available through Blue Ox.

TIMETABLE – Jim Datka: Submissions for the Q4 *Timetable* are due by Wednesday September 15th.

NAME BADGES & PHOTOGRAPHY - James Bando: NTR

DIVISION VIDEO LIBRARY – Jack Spangler: NTR

DIVISION BOOK LIBRARY - Stephen Leydon: NTR

MODEL RAILROAD & DIVISION HELP – Ovidiu Trifanescu: NTR

OLD BUSINESS

Creating a policy on donations of hobby items to the Division is moved to next month.

NEW BUSINESS

The Division's shed at the Southeastern Railway Museum which was used to hold switching layouts is no longer needed for Scouting merit badges. The Museum will be advised that if they do not need it, it can be taken down.

Jim Travis moved to adjourn, seconded by Bob Kelshaw. **Meeting Adjournment** at 6:52 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Datka
Director of Administration