

PIEDMONT DIVISION, BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES – OCT 13, 2020

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

Board Members Present: Alan Mole, Doug Alexander, Jim Foley, Jim Hobbs, Howard Goodwin, Jim Travis, Joe Sullivan, Perry Lamb, Peter Youngblood, Bob Kelshaw, Sally Bando, Steve Funsten, Walt Liles

Board members absent: John Falk

Quorum Present

Committee Chairs, Division Members, and Visitors Present *as taken from the sign-in sheet*: Bob Wood, Charles Mason, Cuck Hoesch, Conrad Mora, Gary Fish, Hnk Primas, Jim Datka, John Stevens, Mike Deaton, Peter Thomas, Rick Coble

Officer and Director Reports

Superintendent – Walt Liles: Future of meeting in person update – The Church has not indicated when they will reopen. Walt has been looking for another location, but nothing is available in our price range and location.

Administration – Perry Lamb: Minutes from Sept 8, 2020 with electronic election Motion/Vote results added – Motion to approve Jim Travis, Second, Howard Goodwin - Approved

Finance – Jim Foley: Finance Report sent – Highlights. Assets are down by about \$600. \$500 is in from Scale Trains. A number of refunds for Scout merit badge program. Loss on the Train show was about \$12,000. Credit cards are out but no reports of who is using them. The report may be missing a digit on the top total. Motion to approve Bob Kelshaw, Second Howard Goodwin - Approved with addition of missing digit

Operations – Sally Bando: Report sent

Personnel/Membership – Howard Goodwin: Report sent. Howard has been contacting those who need to renew.

Committee Reports

Apparel – Walt Liles: NTR

Website – Bob Kelshaw, Rick Coble: NTR – See under new business – Pilgrimage web site is up to date. Just need an administrative page for linking to all the videos. Bob Kelshaw has tested uploading and making videos available on YouTube.

Pilgrimage – Mike Deaton: Report sent – Things are on schedule - Looking Great! – No addition from the report. 48 layouts for the tour, Video for 46 or 47, 33 are complete. Will be editing some next month and getting them finished. There will be a small group of live presentations. Will continue to use the Division video release forms and about 50% are already in.

Achievement Program – Charlie Mason: Report Sent/ Jim Datka - Photo Contest results – Several AP awards will be listed tonight. Certificates have been mailed out. Model contest after the first of the year, maybe February. If we are not meeting in person, we'll have a drive by judging event. Perhaps at Blue Ox Trains. We will likely NOT have a contest at the Train Show in March. Preference is to have a contest at a much smaller event. – Photo Contest – 27 entries so far. Model and Prototype. Judging will start after the deadline tomorrow.

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

2021 Model Train Show – Hank Primas: Updates-Taxes on admission (see Jim Foley) – The new name will allow for us to put our name on the show. We have a new logo for the show. Jim is sending email to vendors to get them signed up. 5 have already signed up. We will need someone to take over the White Elephant sales team. Entry fee will have to include sales tax. Table rental will also have to include tax. We are in the process of getting information out to potential vendors.

Train Show Name Change Motion – October 7, 2020 – Motion by Perry Lamb - I move that the Piedmont Division of the NMRA change the name if it's annual train show from "The Model Train Show" to "The Piedmont Division Model Train Show" with the year added to the end for each new year. Second by Walt Liles – Votes – Yes – 12, No – 0, Approved via email vote by the Division Board of Directors

Marketing – Sally Bando: Report sent. We are hot and heavy into promoting the Pilgrimage. Also busy getting ads into magazines for the train show.

Name Badges & Photography - James Bando: NTR

Division Video Library - Royal Bruce: NTR

Division Book Library - Stephen Leyton: NTR

Model Railroad & Division Help – Ovidiu Trifanescu: NTR

Train 'N Camp - Perry Lamb: We need trees and grass.

Timetable – Jim Datka: Timetable will be complete tomorrow. December 23 is the deadline for the Q1 2021 Timetable. May want to print a few Q1 timetables for the March train show.

Old Business

Election Nominations- Chuck Hoesch/Rick Coble for update nominees and voting protocol. – One opening for General BOD position. On-line ballots will go out on 10/22. Email will go out a couple days before the ballots go out. Around 30 ballots need to be mailed out on 10/21.

MEETING THROUGH DECEMBER 2020 -ALL VIRTUAL-Will hopefully have update by Nov for 2021. December will be a virtual Christmas meeting. Something fun will happen. Prizes, trivia and awards will still take place.

Still verifying Toys-For-Tots program for Christmas- Different info on website- Not sure- Will have a plan for donations before Holiday Virtual gathering

2021 Planning & Budget- Scheduled for Saturday Dec 5th-9-11am – Newly elected BOD members should attend. Look at your budget items before the meeting.

No official request from BSA for financial request sent to me. - Walt – Howard needs to ask the Atlanta Area Council for an official request for cars.

Walt will be sending request to SER for Training -N-Camp grant. – Grant for Trees and weeds. We can also apply for NMRA matching funds.

Please remember to keep your NMRA dues current. This is a requirement for BOD members.

New Business

Walt appointed Bob Kelshaw (Chairperson) to form Website team to investigate updating all PD websites/technology with software. Includes Budget for upgrading software and managing. We will rebuild our websites using new software management. Our site doesn't load correctly with browsers other than Chrome. Bob will ask for a couple of people to work with him.

Are we really willing to meet, assuming we had a place to meet? Would enough people actually come to the meeting and make a room worth it. What size would our group be? We might only have 50, maybe. Demographics might limit our attendance. We would really like to meet in March. Contest meetings are good ones for live meetings. On-line meetings have been successful.

Any Other Business

Meeting Adjournment, 6:47 PM

Respectfully submitted:

Perry Lamb
Director of Administration