

Meeting called to order at 6:04 p.m., Holy Innocents' Episcopal Church, Sandy Springs, GA by Peter Youngblood, MMR, Superintendent. Peter welcomed all the officers, board members, committee heads and other Division members to the meeting.

Board Members Present (11): Peter Youngblood, MMR, Matt Coleman, Joe Sullivan, Walt Liles, Chuck Hoesch, Perry Lamb, Joe Maiuro, Jim Travis, Alan Mole, Charlie Crawford, MMR, and Chris White.

Board members absent (3): Norm Lundin, Joe Nichols Jr., MMR, and Royal Bruce.

**Quorum Present**

Committee Chairs, Division Members, and Visitors Present *as taken from the sign-in sheet (10)*:

Bill Zawacki, MMR, Dottie Maiuro, Rick Coble, Howard Goodwin, MMR, Rob Dodds, Martin Guldner, Randall Watson, David Gelmini, Tyler Gelmini and Steve Funsten.

**Officer and Director Reports**

**Administration - Chris White** The June 2015 Minutes were approved following a motion by Perry Lamb and seconded by Walt Liles. Chris apologized to Charlie Crawford for omitting the MMR designation behind his name in the June minutes.

**Finance – Joe Sullivan** Joe submitted the financial report by email for June 2015. The June financial report was approved by the Board following a motion by Jim Travis and seconded by Matt Coleman. Walt Liles had a question about the date of filing with the IRS and the potential of being charged late fees. Joe indicated that the IRS forms would be filed on time before the deadline of 15<sup>th</sup> August 2015. Joe also informed the Board that the changing of our bank accounts from Bank America to BB&T was in progress and would be completed in the next few days.

**Operations—Walt Liles** Walt submitted the June report by email and he reviewed the major portions of his report at the meeting. Walt and a number of other Piedmont members did attend the train event in Chatsworth which was enjoyed by all attending. Peter Youngblood had a very successful Open House during June.

**Personnel/Membership - Royal Bruce** – Royal presented his June report by email. June attendance at our new venue was 91. Royal was unable to attend the meeting because of family illness commitments

**Committee Reports** These reports had been emailed to all Board members. These committee reports were accepted on a motion by Perry Lamb and seconded by Joe Sullivan.

**Website - Scott Povlot** – Scott submitted a report by email. There were 1600 page views on the Division website during June.

**Pilgrimage, Advertising, and Promotion/Division Apparel - Gary Jarabek** - Gary submitted a report by email. Gary summarized the Company Store inventory and also listed the advertising for the Monthly Division Meetings. For the Pilgrimage, layout scheduling has been completed and is now published on the Pilgrimage website. George Bloodworth continues to actively obtain revenues for Pike Ads in the Pilgrimage Booklet.

**Achievement Program – Randall Watson** Randall submitted a report by email. One AP award for Scenery has been approved for Thomas Roskelly and would be presented at the general meeting. No other certificates outstanding from the NMRA..

**Good and Welfare –Chuck & Mary Ann Hoesch** – Email report submitted. Two letters were sent during June.

**2016 Model Train Show –Joe Gelmini** Nothing to report.

**Boy Scout Merit Badge Program (Duluth and Kennesaw) –Howard Goodwin.** Howard submitted his report by email. The Kennesaw class for July 25<sup>th</sup> is full and Howard was again asking for additional volunteers to assist. The next class for Duluth is scheduled for September 26<sup>th</sup> and is already 2/3rds full. Again, additional volunteers and counselors are still needed

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

**Name Badges & Photography - James Bando** – James made one name badge during the month. He also reported awesome news concerning the progress of the health of his and Sally's daughter Cheryl and sincerely thanked all Division members for their thoughts and prayers..

**Division Video Library - David Gelmini** – Nothing to report.

*Division Book Library - Stephen Leydon* – Nothing to report.

*Train N' Camp - Perry Lamb*. Perry and Peter Y. reminded the group of a Train in Camp on Saturday August 15<sup>th</sup> on the subject of Learning the Fundamentals of Judging for an AP competition . Peter Y. and Randall W. will be the trainers.

*Model Railroad & Division Help – Ovidiu Trifanescu* – Nothing to report.

### Old Business

*Action List - Peter Youngblood* - Peter reviewed the July Action List. There is a new addition to the list. There will be an SER Mini-meet to be held in Crossville, TN during the weekend of November 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>. The general theme would be Model Railroading in the Digital Age. Information on the Mini-meet is available on the SER website.

*Alternative Timetable – Peter Youngblood*. Peter had followed up the suggestion of publishing an additional shortened version of the Timetable and had discussed with Rick Coble. The potential cost of this new addition could be \$350 per quarter. Peter and Rick had concluded that this alternative should be reconsidered and suggested to the Board that this proposal be tabled for the time being.

*Railroad Prototype Modelers 2015 Meeting – Walt Liles*. Walt informed the Board of the status between the RPM group and the Piedmont Division. Based on the experience of last year the Piedmont Division would not be formally assisting the RPM group this year , although all Piedmont members were obviously encouraged to participate if they wished. Walt also suggested the article in the latest Timetable was somewhat misleading and fully explained his position to the Board.

*Wounded Warrior Project – Jim Travis*. Jim had eventually contacted the WW HQ in Florida and they had indicated that they had no interest in our assistance. Jim was going to attempt to contact the local organizer in a last attempt to establish a program with the Division. Chris White pointed out that the WW had now become a very large charitable organization and suggested that any help – other than cash – would most likely not be desirable.

*The Shepherd Center – Joe Nichols, Jr.* Joe was not present at the Board meeting.

*NMRA DVD Clinics – Peter Youngblood* Peter informed the Board that the NMRA had now decided to include all the DVDs in the NMRA website. David Gelmini would incorporate the donated 99 DVS clinics into the Division Video Library.

*Auction or “other alternative event” during 2015 – Walt Liles* Walt informed the Board that he was actively working on a proposal for an Auction of some type later in the year.

### New Business

*Attracting New NMRA members – Peter Youngblood*. Peter is always looking for large and small ways to attract and keep NMRA members. He recommended to the Board that all new members be given an SER patch. He also suggested other welcome gifts to new members. Editor Question? Does Gary Jarabek still have Piedmont mugs to donate?

*The Southern Railroad Museum HO Layout – Walt Liles*. Walt informed the Board that the HO layout in the museum in Duluth could do with some help. On a proposal from Walt and seconded by Joe Sullivan, the Board approved an expenditure of \$129 for an Atlas locomotive for the Museum to be supplied by Steve Funsten of BlueOx Trains.

*Meeting Adjournment* Alan Mole proposed and Joe Sullivan seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. Confirmed by acclamation and the **Meeting was adjourned at 6.35 pm.**

Respectfully submitted,

*Chris White*, Director of Administration