

# PIEDMONT DIVISION BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

**FEBRUARY 9, 2021**

Meeting called to order at 6:00 PM by Superintendent Perry Lamb virtually via Webex.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Doug Alexander, Sally Bando, Jim Datka, Gary Fish, Jim Foley, Bob Kelshaw, Perry Lamb, Hank Primas, Raymond Stewart, Peter Thomas, Jim Travis - **QUORUM PRESENT**

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** Steve Funsten, Jim Hobbs

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS, DIVISION MEMBERS AND VISITORS PRESENT:** Rick Coble, Chuck Hoesch, Walt Lilies, Charlie Mason MMR, Conrad Mora, John Stevens

## OFFICER AND DIRECTOR REPORTS

**SUPERINTENDENT – Perry Lamb:** Application for 501(c)(3) and issues discussed at length.

Reasons to pursue: Property or cash donations can be claimed as charitable deduction for tax purposes by donor. Courtesy to member families to dispose of train collections and receive tax benefit against estate. Selling select items via white elephant sale, auction or other means could generate revenue. If Division purchases property, a discounted price can be claimed by seller as charitable deduction.

Concerns: Much of what has been donated to Division is unusable and includes low interest items like books and videos. Rolling stock often without original boxes. Storage of items is a costly and real concern.

Consensus that a process must be developed and communicated which would include who and what can be donated, inventory lists and packaging requirements. Agents such as hobby shops and trainz.com could be pursued to assist or take over disposition. Walt to discuss with trainz.com.

Perry asked that Jim Foley proceed with the 501(c)(3) applications and that Walt, Hank, John Stevens and Jim Travis begin developing guidelines and procedures.

**ADMINISTRATION – Jim Datka:** MINUTES from the January 12, 2021 meeting were distributed. Steve Funsten was incorrectly recorded and was moved to BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT. Motion to approve Walt Liles; Seconded by Bob Kelshaw. Approved.

**FINANCE – Jim Foley:** Letter was sent to IRS describing reasons behind delay in filing 2019 taxes. This should halt threatening letters while IRS reviews our appeal.

Jim said that he has received room deposits that were made to the church and that fraudulent charges were reimbursed. He is securing access to our investment accounts.

Because of the rescheduling of the Train Show, he has increased the TRAIN SHOW advertising expense for the new dates and included filing fees for the 501(c)(3) application. He made a motion to approve the 2021 budget; Seconded by Jim Travis. Approved.

**OPERATIONS – Sally Bando:** Report sent. Sally notified that Fred Colman has died—he was instrumental in running the Asheville Train Show and will be missed.

Upcoming events:

February 26-27—ASHVILLE MODEL TRAIN SHOW.

March 9—Piedmont Division Virtual Clinic: 3D PRINTING with Father Tim.

March 5-7—COASTAL RAIL BUFFS MODEL RAILROAD CLUB SHOW in Savannah.

March 27—WOMEN'S EXPO at Clarence Brown Center, Cartersville.

**PERSONNEL/MEMBERSHIP – Gary Fish:** Report sent. Of ten members who were in arrears, four are now again active and two in process of renewing. Five do not have current phone numbers.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**2021 MODEL TRAIN SHOW – Hank Primas:** TRAIN SHOW has been rescheduled for October 2-3. The Clarence Brown Center has moved our deposit to this date without penalty. Response from the vendors has been great. Of 146 available tables, 25 have been sold and 15 more are awaiting contract and receipt of

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payment. Hank has changed the policy to require signed contracts and payment in advance and will no longer accept checks at the show.

**TRAIN 'N CAMP - Perry Lamb:** Report sent. The January 30 MODEL RAILROADING 101 was a huge success with 119 registrations and over 700 views since it was held. One-half of registrants are not NMRA members and their emails were forwarded to Director of Personnel for follow-up.

Upcoming virtual clinics:

May 29--WEATHERING WITH WASHES AND PANPASTELS (updated with new techniques and materials).

July 31--BUILDING A WOOD STRUCTURE KIT. A complete tool and materials list will be published, and the Bar Mills kit can be purchased at a discount from Blue Ox. Bar Mills staff may teach this class.

September 25--BUILDING SCENERY. This is a continuation of the module building program from 2020 and hopefully be held in-person. Attendees not building a module can use this class for a diorama.

**PILGRIMAGE - Mike Deaton:** NTR.

**WEBSITE - Bob Kelshaw, Rick Coble:** Kick-off committee meeting is scheduled for February 17.

**ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM - Charlie Mason:** Report sent. Al Churella MMR has completed the requirements for the Association Volunteer AP Certificate.

**MARKETING - Sally Bando:** Report sent. Magazine and other advertising sources have been notified of the changed dates for the TRAIN SHOW. Hobby shops were told to pull the show flyers. 2021 Budget was increased by \$240 for new paid ads in *Model Railroader* and *Classic Toy Train* magazines.

**TIMETABLE - Jim Datka:** Report sent. Q1 2021 *Timetable* posted January 26. A tribute article for Peter Youngblood MMR will appear in the Q2 issue. Deadline for submissions to this issue is Wednesday, March 10.

New printed *Timetables* will be held until late Summer/early Fall to support the TRAIN SHOW. I have 100 copies from last year on-hand. HobbyTown—Kennesaw received 100 copies with an insert of our events calendar.

**GOOD AND WELFARE - Chuck & Mary Ann Hoesch:** Chuck received thanks from the family of L.B Groover.

**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

Application for 501(c)(3) and issues discussed at start of meeting.

### NEW BUSINESS

Division Charter to be revised to allow flexibility for all future elections. 2020 virtual election was approved as a temporary step due to pandemic. Rick, Bob Kelshaw and John Stevens to propose simple change.

Bob Kelshaw moved to adjourn, seconded by Walt.

**Meeting Adjournment** at 6:52 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Datka

Director of Administration