

Meeting called to order at 6:05 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 and trusted that all present had a great Labor Day weekend.

Board Members Present (11): Peter Youngblood, MMR, Matt Coleman, Joe Sullivan, Walt Liles, Royal Bruce, Perry Lamb, Joe Maiuro, Jim Travis, Alan Mole, Norm Lundin and Chris White.

Board members absent (3): Chuck Hoesch, Joe Nichols Jr., MMR, and Charlie Crawford, MMR. **Quorum Present**

Committee Chairs, Division Members, and Visitors Present *as taken from the sign-in sheet (18)*:

Bill Zawacki, MMR, Dottie Maiuro, Rick Coble, Howard Goodwin, MMR, Sally Bando, Ed Delattre, Alice Dellatre, Gary Jarabek, Jim Hobbs, Doug Alexander, John Falk, Dr. Joe Nichols, Sr., MMR, Mike Deaton, Randall Watson, Joe Gelmini, MMR, David Gelmini, Tyler Gelmini and Steve Funsten.

**Officer and Director Reports**

**Administration - Chris White** The August 2015 Minutes were approved following a motion by Joe Maiuro and seconded by Matt Coleman. Chris thanked Rick Coble for taking and preparing the minutes on his behalf.

**Finance – Joe Sullivan** Joe submitted the financial report by email and then a second amended report for August 2015. The August financial report was approved by the Board following a motion by Jim Travis and seconded by Perry Lamb.

**Operations—Walt Liles** Walt submitted the August report by email and he reviewed the major portions of his report at the meeting. Walt informed the Board that Mr. George Masak will be relinquishing the duties of volunteer refreshment provider at the Piedmont Division meetings at the end of the year, and that Gary Fish will be the new volunteer starting in 2016. The Board thanked George by suitable acclamation for his many years of outstanding service in this important position.

**Personnel/Membership - Royal Bruce** – Royal presented his August report by email. August attendance at our new venue was 107 with three visitors. The Piedmont Division, at latest count, had 411 NMRA members.

**Committee Reports** These reports had been emailed to all Board members. These committee reports were accepted on a motion by Joe Sullivan and seconded by Jim Travis. Peter reminded all officers and committee heads to develop and present their 2016 Budgets as soon as possible, and to ensure that the proposed budget was in Joe Sullivan's possession well before the Strategic Planning to be held on 10<sup>th</sup> October.

**Website - Scott Povlot** – Scott submitted a report by email. There were 1513 page views on the Division website during August.

**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, we now have 80 layouts for this year. All layouts are now on the Division website and the booklet is in the proof-reading phase. We still need additional operator assistants.

**Achievement Program – Randall Watson** Nothing to report for August.

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

**2016 Model Train Show –Joe Gelmini** Joe submitted an email report with a preliminary 2016 Train Show Budget attached. First vendor mailings were being sent out in August.

**Boy Scout Merit Badge Program (Duluth and Kennesaw) – Howard Goodwin.** Howard submitted a very detailed email report. The next class for Duluth scheduled for September 26<sup>th</sup> was now full with 30 scouts with another 30 on standby! The next Kennesaw program will be held on January 9<sup>th</sup> 2016. Howard has been contacted by a South Carolina troop who would like to bring their entire troop to Duluth for a Merit Badge program. Howard anticipates that the Division's 1000<sup>th</sup> Boy Scout Merit Badge will be presented at Kennesaw. Howard recognized the outstanding contribution of John Stevens who has led this program at the Division level for many years and now nationally at the NMRA level.

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

**Name Badges & Photography - James Bando** – James made 4 name badges during the August. He also supplied many photographs to Doug A. for potential inclusion in the Timetable.

**Division Video Library - David Gelmini** – David had received a donation of additional VHS tapes which he will convert to DVD format immediately.

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

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

### **Old Business**

**Action List - Peter Youngblood** - Peter reviewed the September Action List, and again reminded those attending of the Strategic Planning Meeting on October 10<sup>th</sup>. The CSX training center program will be revisited in 2016.

**Wounded Warrior Project – Jim Travis.** Jim has made contact with a local Atlanta representative and plans to follow up in the immediate future.

**The Shepherd Center – Joe Nichols, Jr.** No update on this effort.

**Auction or “other alternative event” during 2015 – Walt Liles** Walt again informed the Board that he had plans for an Auction, but this would now be in 2016. Maybe a discussion point for the Strategic Planning Meeting.

### **New Business**

**Recognition of Ed Delattre – Peter Youngblood.** Peter introduced Ed and his wife Alice who had made significant contributions to the Division and the Region in proposed payment of NMRA dues to both active members of our military as well as US veterans. Ed was given the opportunity to address those present and he was received with suitable acclamation by all in attendance.

**Stickers for Old Railroad magazines – Royal Bruce.** Royal suggested an innovated way of “moving” all the old magazines that are donated to the Division during the year. He proposed a “sticker” program to assist in the movement of these magazines. He requested an expenditure of \$150 to proceed with this excellent idea. This proposed expense was approved by the Board following a motion by Walt Liles and seconded by Perry Lamb.

**The NMRA Annual Convention in Portland – Peter Youngblood** Peter summarized the very successful Portland convention. There were 1500 attendees from 47 states and 10 countries. Clinics and tours were excellent and very well attended. The Annual 2016 Train Show had 13,000 attendees. Joe Gelmini also commented on the introduction of innovative ideas such as the very new LCC system.

**Meeting Adjournment** Alan Mole proposed and Matt Coleman seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. Confirmed by acclamation and the **Meeting was adjourned at 6.45 pm.**

Respectfully submitted,

**Chris White**, Director of Administration