

Meeting called to order at 6:04 p.m., Old Hickory House, Tucker, GA by Peter Youngblood, MMR, Superintendent.

Board Members Present (13): Peter Youngblood, MMR, Gary Jarabek, Chris White, Joe Sullivan, Walt Liles, Alan Mole, Norman Lundin, Joe Nichols, Jr., MMR, Chuck Hoesch, Scott Chatfield, Perry Lamb, Paul Rankin, David Gelmini and Charlie Crawford, MMR.

Board members absent (0):

Quorum Present

Committee Chairs, Division Members, and Visitors Present *as taken from the sign-in sheet* (22)

Randall Watson, Del and Diane Kittendorf, James and Sally Bando, Joe Gelmini, MMR, Ed Laity, Bill Zawacki, MMR, Steve Funsten, Tom Banks, Mike Deaton, Doug Alexander, Paul Voelker, Rick Coble, Ovidiu Trifanescu, Dr. Joe Nichols, Sr., MMR, John Travis, James Wolfe, Martin Goldman, Robert Hess, Bob Kelshaw, and Vincent LaRaffa,

Officer and Director Reports

Administration - Chris White.

The June 2014 Minutes were approved following a motion by Paul Rankin and seconded by David Gelmini...

Finance – Joe Sullivan Joe submitted a financial report by email for June 2014.

This report was approved following a motion by Gary Jarabek and seconded by Norm Lundin.

Operations—Walt Liles Report submitted by email. June was an extremely busy month. Walt reviewed the schedule for July and August – again a very busy period.

Personnel/Membership - Paul Rankin – Paul submitted an email report. We had 96 attendees for the June meeting, maintaining our 12-month average to 100 attendees. Paul also informed the Board of a Train Show to be held on the 9th August at the North Atlanta Trade Center and that he would be asking for volunteers at the general meeting.

Committee Reports These reports had been emailed to all Board members. Peter Youngblood requested a motion to approve all Committee Reports as submitted. Motion submitted by Joe Sullivan and seconded by David Gelmini. Reports were approved. There were no additional comments submitted by Committee Heads.

Walt Liles commented on the remaining Convention cars and requested the present status. We had 36 HO cars and more than 80 N cars. It was agreed to reduce the prices again in attempt to move them. It was agreed to discuss in more detail at the August meeting.

Timetable - Doug Alexander – Nothing to report.

Website - Scott Povlot – No report.

Pilgrimage, Advertising, and Promotion/Division Apparel - Gary Jarabek - Emailed report. Pilgrimage planning and preparation in full swing. George Bloodworth active with obtaining Pike Ad donations.

Achievement Program – Randall Watson Emailed report submitted. Chuck Hoesch Volunteer.

Good and Welfare –Chuck & Mary Ann Hoesch – Nothing to report.

2014 Model Train Show –Joe Gelmini Emailed report submitted Received Galleria contract for 2015.

Boy Scout Merit Badge Program (Duluth) - John Stevens – Nothing to report.

Boy Scout merit Badge Program (Kennesaw) – Howard Goodwin – Nothing to report...

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

Name Badges & Photography - James Bando – Report submitted. Two name badges made.

Division Video Library - David Gelmini – Nothing to report.

Division Book Library - Stephen Leydon – Nothing to report.

Volunteer Coordinator - Walt Liles – Nothing to report

Convention Cars – Alan Mole – Report next month.

Member Aid – Ovidiu Trifanescu – Nothing to report.

Old Business

Train Show Raffle Layout. Paul Rankin updated the Board on the status of recent donations. We have a base and rolling stock for a potential N-scale layout in 2016. The previous donation will be utilized as the base for the HO 2015 Raffle Layout.

2014 Action List - Peter Youngblood had emailed the latest 2014 Action List to all Board members and Committee Heads. The Railroad Prototype Modelers meet will be held 18-20th September. The Strategic Planning Meeting will now be held at Perry Lamb's church in Marietta on Saturday 4th October from 11.30 am to 2.00 pm.

Clinic DVD – Still a set of Power Point presentations. David Gelmini still making progress. Plans to post presentations – possibly 20 – on the Division website.

Region Convention Peter Youngblood reported briefly on an excellent convention in Memphis. Peter also informed the Board that Piedmont Division members were elected to Region positions. Alan Mole – Vice President, Sally Bando – Treasurer, Howard Goodwin and Paul Voelker – Board Members, Randall Watson – SER AP Chairman, and Rick Coble – Membership Chairman. The Board gave appropriate acclamation to these elected members.

Website Division Member Directory with Photos – No further action during the month. David, Walt, Joe Jr., and Scott P. to continue to investigate.

Manchester Railroad Days – Walt Liles informed the Board that this event would take place on October 18th, and that the Division would be represented by volunteers – with the Division mini-membership booth.

Railroad Prototype Modelers Meet To be held in Marietta on 18th and 19th September. (Ed. Note. Full details of meeting received after meeting.)

New Business

Media Walt Liles introduced the Board to the concept of using Media to improve our outreach programs. The use of Facebook, and the Division website was recommended. More use of the Timetable and e-blasts were also suggested. Walt Liles and Rick Coble would form a sub-committee to pursue this excellent idea with assistance from Scott Povlot.

NMRA Membership Joe Gelmini, NMRA Board member, would be attending the NMRA Board meetings in Cleveland this month. He asked the Board for input on the difficult issue of declining membership and suggestions to reduce/change. A number of Board members had excellent comments and suggestions which may be summarized as follows:

Joe Sullivan – Concerned with increasing cost of equipment impacting interest of new – especially young members.

Joe Sullivan – Emphasize importance of operating groups and the potential of improved social interaction between members.

Peter Youngblood – Potential articles in the NMRA magazine.

Peter Youngblood - Produce a short DVD as an introduction to model railroading for outside groups – young and old.

Doug Alexander – Why did the NMRA stop publishing member numbers and the “thermometer”?

Chris White – Concentrate on recent retirees – especially active retirees looking for a hobby.

Announcement Board member Perry Lamb announced his recent engagement with a wedding day of 28th September. This great news was received with awesome acclamation for Perry and his future bride.

Walt Liles proposed and David Gelmini seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. Confirmed by acclamation and the **Meeting was adjourned at 6.50p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Chris White, Director of Administration