

Meeting called to order at 6:02 p.m., Old Hickory House, Tucker, GA by Peter Youngblood, MMR, Superintendent.

Board Members Present (12): Peter Youngblood, MMR, Gary Jarabek, Chris White, Joe Sullivan, Walt Liles, Norman Lundin, Chuck Hoesch, Scott Chatfield, Perry Lamb, David Gelmini, Paul Rankin, and Charlie Crawford, MMR.

Board members absent (2): Alan Mole, Joe Nichols, Jr., MMR **Quorum Present**

Committee Chairs, Division Members, and Visitors Present *as taken from the sign-in sheet (26)*:
Randall Watson, Del and Diane Kittendorf, James and Sally Bando, Joe Gelmini, MMR, Bill Zawacki, MMR, Steve Funsten, Tom Banks, Mike Deaton, Doug Alexander, Rick Coble, Len Polinsky, Victor Pitrowski, Tyler Gelmini, Jim Travis, Kevin Bush, William Smith, Martin Guldner, Howard Goodwin, Tim Travis, Vince LaRuffa, Mike Fleming, Ed Laity, John Falk, and Scott Povlot.

Officer and Director Reports

Administration - Chris White.

The August 2014 Minutes indicated that the Pike Ad sales were \$1000 better than budget. Joe Sullivan informed the Board that this was not correct. They were indeed excellent, but not \$1000 better than budget. With this correction, the minutes were approved following a motion by Joe Sullivan and seconded by Perry Lamb.

Finance – Joe Sullivan Joe submitted a financial report by email for July 2014. There were no questions or comments on Joe’s report. The August financial report was approved by the Board following a motion by Perry lamb and seconded by David Gelmini.

At the August meeting, Joe had presented a motion based on advice and input from our auditor and IRS Tax preparer – Mr. Elmer Wilson. This motion was tabled for the September meeting. Joe read out the motion and summarized the reasoning behind the various parts of the motion. Previously Perry Lamb had recommended an amendment to Joe’s original motion. This amendment was read out and explained to the Board. After some discussion, the original motion with the amendment was approved by the Board following a motion by Perry Lamb and seconded by Paul Rankin. This motion reads as follows:

“The Board of Directors of the Piedmont Division adopts the following guidelines on accumulation and allocation of Division assets;

First, the Division will attempt to keep sufficient funds in the General Account to pay 24 months of expected non-Train Show expenses out of that account without further income from the Train Show.

Second, the Division will attempt to keep sufficient funds in the Train Show account to permit payment of all typical Train show expenses due prior to the date of the Train Show and in addition to fund the expected “float” of cash expected to be needed for the gate, raffle, and other activities for which the Division will be expected to make cash change to patrons without borrowing funds from other accounts, with a contingency of up to 20% of annual Train Show expenses.

Third, the Division will keep other funds in a separate account (or accounts) for “building acquisition or rental and capital equipment”, provided however that the other two accounts may have access to these funds if serious financial need arises.

Fourth, the Board of Directors will review the allocation of assets at least twice per year.”

Operations—Walt Liles Report submitted by email. August was again an extremely busy month and he reviewed the August activities. Walt then reviewed the schedule for the next few months. (See written report.)

Personnel/Membership - Paul Rankin – Paul submitted an email report. We had 104 attendees for the August meeting, maintaining our 12-month rolling average at 102 attendees. Paul commented that the Division “gift-payment” of Rail Passes

to all new members attending the monthly meetings had been successful, and recommended that the program be continued in 2015.

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 Chuck Hoesch. Reports were approved.

There were no additional comments submitted by Committee Heads.

Timetable - Doug Alexander – Nothing to report.

Website - Scott Povlot – Scott submitted an email report. 732 visits to the webpage in August with 2139 “page views”.

Pilgrimage, Advertising, and Promotion/Division Apparel - Gary Jarabek - Emailed report. Pike and commercial ads for the Pilgrimage booklet are complete. Still signing up volunteer “operators” for some layouts. 81 layouts for the Pilgrimage are now confirmed. The Booklet should go to press in the next few days

Achievement Program – Randall Watson Emailed report submitted. Chief Dispatcher certificate to Joe Nichols, Jr., MMR at the General Meeting.

Good and Welfare –Chuck & Mary Ann Hoesch – One letter was sent during the month.

2014 Model Train Show –Joe Gelmini Emailed report submitted. Proposed 2015 Train Show budget submitted to Joe Sullivan. The Train Show website will be updated in the immediate future. First vendor mailing will go out in October. Train Show committee meeting for Tuesday October 14th.

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

Boy Scout Merit Badge Program (Kennesaw) – Howard Goodwin – August program completed with 30 scouts having attended.

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 – Additional VHS tapes have been transferred to DVD format.

Division Book Library - Stephen Leydon – Brief email report from Steve. Congratulations on daughter’s achievement!

Volunteer Coordinator - Walt Liles – Nothing to report

Convention Cars – Alan Mole – Report submitted. No report. (Sally Bando at the General Meeting reported that all HO cars have been sold and that some N cars remained.)

Member Aid – Ovidiu Trifanescu – Nothing to report.

Relocation Committee – Norm Lundin. Norm submitted a detailed report and recommendation by email. See under New Business.

Old Business

2014 Action List - Peter thanked the Board and the committee Heads for an outstanding job in completing all the items on the Action List through August – which were many and detailed. See latest Action List emailed to all Board members and committee heads. In addition to all scheduled activities Peter informed the Board that Joe Gelmini was still hoping to organize a Division Rail Fan Excursion.

Clinic DVD – Still a set of Power Point presentations. David Gelmini still making progress. Further discussions with Scott Povlot are continuing. Of the 40+ clinics, only 28 are suitable for PP presentations. David and Scott hope to have these available on the 2013 Convention website in the immediate future. Members were asked to review and check for problems, before notifying all 2013 Convention attendees.

Website Division Member Directory with Photos – Joe Nichols, Jr.. and Scott continuing to discuss.

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 Peter Youngblood summarized the activities of this meeting – which is not an NMRA sponsored event – but still very worthwhile. September 19th and 20th at the Kennesaw Museum. Piedmont Division supplying some clinicians as well as prototype layout tours.

New Business

Relocation of Division General Meetings – Peter Youngblood and Norm Lundin Peter summarized the formation of a Relocation Committee very early in the year, based on a previous committee findings that the “epi-center” of the address locations of all Piedmont Division members was in Sandy Springs near the junction of GA 400 and US I 285. The committee focused their attention on this specific geographic area. Following a search of a number of locations and buildings, they had finalized their search at The Holy Innocents Episcopal Church on Mount Vernon Highway just inside the perimeter off Riverside Drive. Norm Lundin then detailed this facility with plans and photographs of the location. For more details see the Committee Report dated 27th August 2014.

Peter informed the Board that the plan was to make this our General Meeting site effective the 2nd Tuesday in February 2015. This was to permit adequate communication to all Division members.

There was considerable discussion and questions on the new location. The cost would be \$300 per month (Elk’s Lodge \$150 per month.) Round tables instead of rectangular tables. Possible Division purchase of these tables in the future. Excellent room for the Board Meeting and semi-annual AP contests.

Some Board Members were concerned of the apparent urgency to make an immediate decision. Scott Chatfield informed the Board that it was normal Division policy to table such an important motion for at least one month to allow the Board members to fully assimilate the new information and to make up their minds. Scott received no seconder for his suggestion to table. Peter Youngblood considered that there had been more than adequate communication throughout the year regarding this proposed change and called for a vote at the September meeting. With a motion from Norm Lundin and seconded by Chuck Hoesch, the relocation was approved with 9 Aye votes, 1 Nay vote and 2 Abstentions – mainly because of the one month tabling issue. With 12 Board members present and 2 absent this represented a passing vote for the motion.

Walt Liles proposed and Gary Jarabek. seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. Confirmed by acclamation and the **Meeting was adjourned at 6.55p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,
Chris White, Director of Administration