

PIEDMONT DIVISION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING REPORT
July 13, 2010

Meeting called to order at 6:05 p.m. at the Old Hickory House, Tucker, GA, by Charlie Crawford, Director of Operations.

Board Members Present as *taken from the sign-in sheet (11)*: Gary Jarabek, Charlie Crawford, Chris White, Ovidiu Trifanescu, Bill Zawacki, Joe Sullivan, David Gelmini, Mike Deaton, Scott Povlot, Bob McIntyre, Scott Chatfield

Absent (3): Rick Coble, Howard Goodwin & David Gilly

Quorum Present

Committee Chairs, Division Members, and Visitors Present as *taken from the sign-in sheet (15)*: Tyler Gelmini, Mike Scupin, Rick Wade, Bill Lyons, John Blanchard, Paul Osman, Peter Youngblood, Jim Travis, Joe Nichols Sr., Joe Nichols Jr., Gary Saxton, John Travis, Jim Wolfe, Stephen Leydon and Paul Boehlert

Officer and Director Reports

Administration (Rick Coble)

Minutes for the June meeting were approved.

Minutes on the web/By Laws changes. Rick has emailed the web team about placing these items on the web. Rick would like to have this complete for the August meeting.

Raffle Layout Ticket Sales. Rick looked into the question of selling layout raffle tickets over the Internet. He spoke with the Cobb County Sheriff's Department about ticket sales. Cobb County reported:

1. While there is no regulation prohibiting the sales of raffle tickets over the internet, we are prohibited from selling tickets to anyone younger than 18. Over the web, we can't ensure that the buyer is 18 or older.
2. While not related to raffle law, there is the cost of accepting payments, be it a traditional CC processing service or PayPal.
3. There is also the cost and hassle of disputed charges, CC fraud, etc.

Rick forwarded the information to Howard Goodwin and Joe Gelmini. Based on the report, the division will advertise on the web, as planned, but sell tickets in person.

Finance (Chris White)

The June Financial Report was approved.

June was a relatively light month for activity. Chris' comments are as follows:

- We had Misc Income in June consisting of DVD sales and the June Raffle, offset by raffle expenses of.
- We had income for the Boy Scout Merit Badge Program offset by office supplies for John Stevens.
- Despite attendance of 90+ for the June meeting, the collection indicates that approximately 72 members paid. The economy is even impacting our collection!

PIEDMONT DIVISION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING REPORT
July 13, 2010

Finance (continued)

- We had an expense for signage for the 2013 Convention to be used at the 2010 NMRA Convention in Milwaukee.
- We had audio video expenses for projector repair, Cable rental, and a cable that was required at the SER Convention in Birmingham.
- We also paid Bob Wood for a new microphone.

Chris received some advertising income from Bob McIntyre for the 2010 Pilgrimage which was deposited in July.

Operations Charlie Crawford)

Clinics and Home Layout Tours are scheduled for the remainder of 2010. One of the Hosts for August, Bill Robertson, broke his hip and will not be able to have the open house. Charlie will try to re-schedule another layout for August.

Charlie has been soliciting clinicians for 2011.

We have had some differences of opinion among the Operations Committee regarding the video router. Ovidiu has proposed a unit that retails for \$130.00. He will bring a lesser-quality version he owns to try at the July Meeting. Bob Wood has concerns that it might not work and has a proposed unit that is a used rental and will cost \$200.00. We may have to bring the two proposals for the Board to decide. This is to route the video feed from one projector to all three.

Membership (David Gilly)

June 2010 attendance was 96, including 3 visitors. 12-month meeting attendance average is 99; 24 month is 95.

New Members – 1, with SouthErneR subscription. No Rail Pass memberships.

David sent a spreadsheet with attendance figures.

Committee Reports

Achievement Program (Bob McIntyre)

Currently waiting to receive the following certificates: Ron Gough, Motive Power, Jim Travis, Assc. Volunteer, Bill Zawacki Assc. Volunteer, Dr. Joe Nichols Sr., Author

Peachtree Express (Bob McIntyre)

You can review the minutes from our last meeting however the booth is up at the Milwaukee Convention for information purposes only. Joe Gelmini coordinated the volunteers for the booth. Thanks to I.D. Jackson for driving the booth up to the Convention. Bob McIntyre is putting together the proposal for National to review that will outline what we as a division will take on and what the National will do. This should be completed by the end of July.

PIEDMONT DIVISION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING REPORT
July 13, 2010

Peachtree Express Volunteers (Joe Gelmini)

14 people have volunteered to staff our Peachtree Express 2013 promotional booth at Milwaukee. We will set up at the convention hotel Sunday, July 11 and stay there through Thursday. Will move the booth to the national train show Friday - Sunday. A staffing schedule was established to have coverage from 8:00 AM - 8:00 PM at the hotel, and 9:00 - 5:00 PM during the train show. Many thanks to all who volunteered their time!

Piedmont Pilgrimage— Bob McIntyre

The advertising promotion is currently on going. The layouts that will be on this year's tour are being finalized by Gary Jarabek. Bob Wheeler has agreed to take over the operator assistance program from Jim Travis as he is moving for his job. Charlie Millar has agreed to become Rick Coble's assistant

Member Aid— Bob McIntyre

No inquiries during June.

Advertising and Promotion/Division Apparel (Gary Jarabek)

Advertising:

Monthly Meetings

Scale Rails submitted through November Issue
Railroad Model Craftsman submitted through November Issue.
Trains.com submitted through November 2010

Auction

Trains.com (updated with Aug 28th date)
Scales Rails: August (original date)
Railroad Model Craftsman: August (original date)

Pilgrimage

Scale Rails: October and November issues
Railroad Model Craftsman: October and November issues

Company Store:

There are only med and XL of old style short sleeve polo shirts left to sell. These will be sold at \$28.00. New polo shirts in stock at the price of \$33.00, complete size range. Complete size range of long sleeve denim shirts. There is 1 vest left. Caps are also in stock. Mugs will be distributed to new NMRA members.

At the June BOD meeting I was looking for direction for disposing of the polo shirts order in error. The consensus was to sell them at regular price. Before I left the Board meeting practically all the shirts purchased in error had been spoken for.

PIEDMONT DIVISION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING REPORT
July 13, 2010

Model Train Show (2011) –Joe Gelmini

Added three new vendors to the vendor database as a result of contacts at the N scale convention in Houston June 22-26.

Will make a trip to Galleria to get exact measurements and "keep clear areas" for Hall "D" on July 12. Hall D is our venue for 2011. The 2010 show was in Hall "A".

Have sold and/or have solid reservations for 51% of the 260 vendor tables planned.

Need to update the train show website with the 2011 information. Joe will be working with Scott Povlot on this upon return from Milwaukee.

Good and Welfare –Joe Gelmini

Card sent to Mike Flynn (of Fayetteville) on learning that Mike's wife, Donna, has been diagnosed with brain cancer. Donna is currently undergoing radiation therapy, but the long-term prognosis is not good.

Division Video Library (Joe Sullivan)

Chugging along.

Division Book Library (Stephen Leydon)

Books Owned:	373
Books Loaned To:	1
Total Books:	374
Uncirculated:	313
Circulating:	61
Total Books:	374

At the June 2010 meeting two people provided the book library in my absence. I would like to thank Mr. Rick Coble and Mr. Ken Stinnette for covering while I was out of town.

At the June meeting eleven books returned from members while eight books were loaned out.

Timetable (Rick Coble)

Q3 Timetable distributed to shops and mailed.

Website (Scott Povlot)

June 2010 - 8,501 page requests

Quarterly Schedule and Timetable updated on the website.

Name Badges (Bill Lyons)

63 new name badges have been handed out. Will hand out more at the General Meeting.

PIEDMONT DIVISION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING REPORT
July 13, 2010

Old Business

Wireless Microphone System (Charlie Crawford)

This proposal covers the purchase of the Shure Wireless Microphone System which we have been using since last April at every Division Meeting and Auction.

With the approval of the BOD, this purchase has been made.

Peter Youngblood and Peter Boehlert demonstrated several wireless microphones, each with its own transmitter and receiver, and with varying levels of quality.

Ovidiu Trifanescu will conduct additional research, and work with Charlie Crawford and Bob Wood to come up with a proposal for the BOD.

Peter Youngblood mentioned that the Achievement Program will turn 50 in 2011 and is working on preliminary plans for special recognition and commemorative items to be sold as a part of the celebration.

As Piedmont Division as Video Production & Promotion Chair and SER Education Program Chair, Peter Youngblood shared his vision to bring quality clinics to those divisions in the region that did not have the resources to provide clinics on their own. He will present a master plan at the Strategic Planning meeting in October to recommend the purchase of high quality video equipment to round out our current A/V equipment so we can prepare videos of our clinics that can be streamed or recorded on DVD. This plan will have current needs, down range needs, cost estimates and an implementation plan.

Division Assets (Chris White)

Chris White spoke with our accountant concerning division assets. We are required to list all assets. Chris will begin the process of identifying and cataloging all division assets. Chris needs an estimate of the A/V equipment, video library and book library.

Raffle Layouts 2011 and Beyond (Howard Goodwin)

In May, the Board of Directors approved the purchase of Steve Berkheimer's HOG layout.

Having a completed layout will enable the Division to market the layout to the general public earlier than in the past. It can be displayed in public locations or hobby shops.

Howard is looking for an individual to head up the public display of the layout and sell tickets.

The Chattahoochee Express Operating Group has committed to building the 2012 layout.

PIEDMONT DIVISION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING REPORT
July 13, 2010

Bylaws Changes (Rick Coble)

Rick Coble would like to post By Laws changes on the web so members can review the proposed changes before the September vote. These need to be posted well before the September meeting. He has emailed the web team and when he hears back will discuss the project.

BOD Minutes on the website (Rick Coble)

Rick Coble will begin posting abbreviated BOD minutes on the website. He has emailed the web team and when he hears back will discuss the project. Rick would like to make the announcement to the general membership in August.

Boy Scout Program/ Expansion (Howard Goodwin)

John Stevens has been contacted by the Southern Museum of Civil War and Locomotive History in Kennesaw about conducting a merit badge program at the museum. Howard Goodwin has made contact with the museum and will be the point person going forward.

New Business

Rail Fan Day (Mike Braunstein, HQ Division Superintendent)

The Headquarters division has announced a Chattanooga Rail Fan Day September 26, 2010. More information is available on the HQ web site.

Long Range Plan (Joe Sullivan/Howard Goodwin)

Joe Sullivan questioned what our long range plans are in view of all this A/V talk and building plans. He thinks John Travis's long range plan should be made public to all members of the BOD prior to the Strategic Planning committee meeting in October. Bill Zawacki moved and it was seconded by Scott Chatfield that Howard Goodwin make the Long Range Planning report available to the entire Board of Directors prior to the October Strategic Planning Committee meeting. Passed by BOD.

The Meeting Adjourned 6:50 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Gary Jarabek acting for
Rick Coble, Director of Administration