

**PIEDMONT DIVISION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING REPORT
July 12, 2011**

Board of Directors Meeting

Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m. at Old Hickory House, Tucker, GA, by Howard Goodwin, Superintendent.

Board Members Present *as taken from the sign-in sheet (12)*: Rick Coble, Bob McIntyre, Howard Goodwin, Bill Zawacki, Gary Jarabek, Joe Sullivan, David Gelmini, Chris White, Peter Youngblood, Scott Chatfield, Scott Povlot, Charlie Crawford

Absent (2): Paul Rankin, Mike Deaton

Quorum Present

Committee Chairs, Division Members, and Visitors Present *as taken from the sign-in sheet (25)*: Mike Scupin, I.D. Jackson, Rick Wade, Paul Boehlert, Walt Liles, Ron Gough, Bill Ello, Heather Gelmini, Joe Gelmini, Kathy Gelmini, Joe Nichols, Sr., Gene Nichols, Ken Raymond, James Wolfe, John Travis, Len Polinsky, Vic Pitrowski, Jim Brown, Bob Wood, Perry Lamb, Tom Banks, Bill Smith, David Gilly, Joe Nichols, Jr., Lynn Nichols

Officer and Director Reports

Administration—Rick Coble

Nothing new to report at this time.

A motion was made by Peter Youngblood to approve the June 2011 minutes. Seconded by Scott Chatfield. Motion passed.

Finance—Chris White

Chris distributed the June Financial Report as an Excel spreadsheet as usual. He has the following comments:

- June was a relatively quiet month with a net expense for the month.
- We have received seed money from the NMRA for the 2013 Convention. As Treasurer of the 2013 Committee I will be opening a special account for Convention spending. I will reimburse the Piedmont Division for all approved receipts for the Convention that we have spent to date.
- We received Income from Boy Scouts to participate in their Merit Badge training (JS), and pike ads to offset the Pilgrimage spending later in the year.
- We paid a couple of months for storage, and they have increased the monthly rate.

A motion was made by Gary Jarabek to approve the June 2011 minutes. Seconded by David Gelmini. Motion passed.

Operations—Charlie Crawford

Clinics pretty well set through the New Year. I will be seeking open house hosts in August and September for 2012.

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Personnel/Membership - Paul Rankin

We had 85 attendees at the June general meeting. Paul is waiting to hear from the manager of the August train show about selling raffle tickets at the show.

Committee Reports

Timetable - Howard Goodwin

The Q3 Timetable has been delayed but is projected to be out during the upcoming weekend.

Peachtree Express— Bob McIntyre

The local committee has made progress in a number of areas. We have received seed money from National. Registration fees were approved. Volunteers sold 126 total registrations in Sacramento, including 18 full Magnolia packages and 8 Magnolia Companion packages.

Piedmont Pilgrimage - Bob McIntyre

Approximately 80 layouts have been scheduled for this year's Pilgrimage. Bob McIntyre is working with *Points North* magazine to publicize the Pilgrimage. Bob and Bill Zawacki are working on new advertisers. Bill Zawacki sent a letter to all Model Train Show vendors about Pilgrimage advertising.

Member Aid— Bob McIntyre

Nothing new to report.

Advertising and Promotion/Division Apparel - Gary Jarabek

Advertising:

Monthly Meetings

NMRA submitted through October 2011 Issue

Railroad Model Craftsman submitted through September 2011 Issue.

Trains.com submitted through October 2011

Auction

NMRA submitted July/August 2011

Railroad Model Craftsman submitted for August 2011

Trains.com through August

Pilgrimage

NMRA submitted for October and November

Railroad Model Craftsman submitted October November

Trains.com through November

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Advertising and Promotion/Division Apparel - continued

Company Store:

There are only med and XL of old style short sleeve polo shirts left to sell.

Putty polo shirts in stock.

Blue polo shirt is in stock. Complete size range (med to 3XL).

Med to 2XL available in long sleeve denim shirts. .

Vests have been sold out.

Caps are also in stock.

Mugs will be distributed to new NMRA members.

Model Train Show (2012) –Joe Gelmini

We are currently 58% sold/confirmed for our planned 262 vendor tables.

Good and Welfare –Joe Gelmini

- Sympathy card to Div 15 member Ben Bartlett on the sudden loss of his wife, Jan.
- Sympathy card to Paul Rankin on the loss of his sister in the recent California Zephyr truck/train crash.
- Recently learned member Joe Yow suffered a stroke...will send card.
- Member Bill Rinck is recovering from recent surgery and is in rehab center.

Division Library - Stephen Leydon

Piedmont Division Library Audit Summary July 2010

Books Owned:	404
Books Loaned To:	1
Total Books:	405
Uncirculated:	354
Circulating:	51
MIA:	0
Total Books:	405

Website-Scott Povlot

June 2011 - 15,162 page requests.

Web meeting reports updated to May 2011.

Boy Scout Merit Badge Program (Duluth) - John Stevens

A couple of issues to report. The switching layouts were used in the Kennesaw program. I installed two combination locks with identical combinations on the door of the storage shed. That has proven to be problematic as they seem to have suffered some corrosion and were difficult to operate. I have used this type of lock before in an outside application, but I am thinking there may be other issues such as the closeness to the operating locomotive that may have made them unacceptable. I will be purchasing more expensive programmable combination locks when I return from California.

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Boy Scout Merit Badge Program (Duluth) - continued

The next scout program in Duluth will be on September 17th. During this program, we will have the 500th scout earn the Railroading Merit Badge through a Piedmont Division Program. This has been incorrectly reported as having occurred at the Kennesaw program. Unfortunately, a certificate was also given to one of the scouts. I am hoping that in the future there will be better communication between myself and the coordinator in Kennesaw to insure we don't have another situation like this.

Boy Scout Merit Badge Program (Kennesaw) - Howard Goodwin/Bill Ello

The division just completed its first BSA merit badge program at the southern Museum of Locomotive and Civil War History in Kennesaw on June 25th. 22 Scouts earned the Railroading merit badge.

Bill Ello offered a number of suggestions about the program to the Board of Directors. Bill would also like to put together a web page on the division web site. Bill will discuss suggestions and the web page with John Stevens, who runs the Duluth program at the Southeastern Railway Museum.

Auctions-Howard Goodwin

The next auction is scheduled for Thursday, August 25, 2011 at the First Presbyterian Church in Marietta.

Facilities - Alan Mole/Howard Goodwin

See item in Old business.

Audio-Visual Production & Promotion Committee-Peter Youngblood

Nothing new to report.

Name Badges - James Bando

I believe that I will have printed 6 name tags during the past month. I still believe that there are enough badges and paper tags to last through 2011. I will have an estimate for purchases in 2012 by next month's meeting.

Old Business

Hospital Layout – Tether Collection - John Travis

The project is on hold until we get volunteers to perform the maintenance. We have one so far (Bob Wheeler), but he does not want to be the only one so the search continues.

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Promotion of Peachtree Express at the 2011 Narrow Gauge Convention-Howard Goodwin

Howard Goodwin has been in touch with an organizer of the 2011 Narrow Gauge Convention, to be held September 7-10 in Hickory, NC, about participating in the 2011 Narrow Gauge Convention in Hickory, NC. Howard would like to take the Peachtree Express booth to the convention.

Division Achievement Program Day (Peter Youngblood)

The Division Achievement Program date is scheduled for August 27, 2011 at HobbyTown USA in Kennesaw.

Peter Youngblood has sent an email requesting volunteers for the event.

Operations Weekend (Joe Sullivan)

Joe has received 32 responses to his operations weekend survey. Nine volunteered to be hosts and nine volunteered to be facilitators. Joe would like to hold operations over three weekends: September 24 and 25; October 1 and 2; and October 8 and 9.

Facilities - Alan Mole/Howard Goodwin

Based on feedback from the initial member survey and discussions with division members, Howard would like to begin rotation of monthly meetings between Tucker and Marietta.

BOD members discussed a potential move. Subject matter included:

Chris White pointed out that we will run out of space if we continue to grow. The Long Range Planning committee recommended looking for a new facility. We have not followed up on all items in the plan.

Bob McIntyre reminded the Board to look towards a long-term plan.

Gary mentioned looking at rearranging seating at the Elks Lodge. The meeting room has a capacity of 225, although that may be for dining, when individuals are seated at both sides of the tables. Gary also asked if the Elk's Lodge rental rate would increase if we alternated locations or moved to another location for a temporary period of time.

Scott Chatfield reminded the group that we are looking at two different problems: 1) Capacity in the Meeting Room, and 2) Location to best serve members.

Joe Sullivan asked who maintained a relationship with Elk's Lodge Staff concerning the meeting room. Chris White responded that he does not have an ongoing relationship with anyone at the Elk's Lodge. Chris will inquire at the lodge.

Alan has stepped down from the position of Facilities chair. Chris White and Charlie Crawford will explore alternatives and make a suggestion to the BOD for a vote in September.

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A/V Equipment Insurance (Peter Youngblood)

Peter Youngblood asked if the current Piedmont Division insurance policy cover PD owned A/V equipment. NMRA insurance is limited to injury-liability and does not cover equipment.

Charlie Crawford will investigate insurance options. He will inquire for a broker among the membership and also contact the NMRA insurance broker.

2012 NASG Convention (Howard Goodwin)

The National Association of S Gaugers is holding its 2012 convention in Chattanooga August 8th - 11th. Howard Goodwin received an email concerning participation.

Howard Goodwin is attending on behalf of the NMRA. This is a good opportunity to promote Peachtree Express as well as the NMRA. He is looking for others to assist in Chattanooga.

Atlanta Parenting Magazine (Howard Goodwin)

The 2011 Atlanta Parenting Magazine's Family Block Party is scheduled for October 8, 2011. Howard has confirmed our interest in participating. Howard would like to take a layout for the event.

The Kid's Operating Layout was selected as most appropriate for the event. Some cosmetic work is needed. Transportation will be arranged. The membership booth will also be at the event.

Raffle Layout (Howard Goodwin)

2012 Layout

The Chattahoochee Express Operating Groups is completing the 2012 raffle layout and is estimating completing the layout at the end of August 2011.

The possibility of displaying the layout and selling raffle tickets at a November Train Show was discussed. We may be required to pay for space if we are selling tickets. Paul Rankin has inquired with the show manager and is waiting for a response.

Division Aprons- Joe Sullivan

Joe Sullivan suggested selling Piedmont Division aprons for use in operating sessions.

Gary Jarabek has received pricing from a vendor for denim or canvas aprons with an embroidered logo. Walt Liles will check with other vendors.

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New Business

Member Privacy - Rick Coble

Louie Gomes distributed information from NMRA Mike Brestel concerning privacy of NMRA members and their information on file. SER President Joe Gelmini has had discussions with Mike and distributed additional information to SER staff and division superintendents.

Rick Coble proposes that we put together our own policy that would include the policy from the National Board and make additions for our division. We would also review member information already in place and if permission for use is required, contact the member. Information would be pulled, if necessary.

Rick will select two volunteers to assist and report back to the BOD in September.

The Meeting Adjourned at 6:46 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Rick Coble, Director of Administration