

**PIEDMONT DIVISION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING REPORT  
October 12, 2010**

**Board of Directors Meeting**

Doubletree Hotel, Tucker, GA

Meeting called to order at 6:05 p.m. at the Doubletree Hotel, Tucker, GA, by Howard Goodwin, Superintendent.

Board Members Present *as taken from the sign-in sheet (13)*: Rick Coble, Bob McIntyre, Howard Goodwin, Joe Sullivan, Charlie Crawford, Mike Deaton, Gary Jarabek, Bill Zawacki, David Gelmini, Ovidiu Trifanescu, Scott Povlot, Scott Chatfield, David Gilly

Absent (1): Chris White

Quorum Present

Committee Chairs, Division Members, and Visitors Present *as taken from the sign-in sheet (13)*: Perry Lamb, Ron Gough, Del Kittendorf, Diane Kittendorf, I.D. Jackson, Joe Gelmini, Tyler Gelmini, Bill Ello, John Travis, Louie Gomes, Tom Banks, James Deaton, Paul Voelker

**Officer and Director Reports**

***Administration—Rick Coble (report submitted in advance)***

The Minutes to the September meeting were approved.

Rick is working on making changes to the bylaws, as approved by membership. He will have the changes completed by the next meeting.

***Finance—Chris White (report submitted in advance)***

The September Financial report was approved.

Chris distributed an Excel spreadsheet showing September activity and added the following comments:

The August auction turned a profit.

The division also received payments for the 2010 Pilgrimage and 2011 Train Show.

The division had expenses for our website and 2011 Train Show raffle tickets.

***Operations—Charlie Crawford (report submitted in advance)***

Clinics for 2011 are nearly complete.

Charlie would like input on scheduling layout tours for 2011. He has have been trying to schedule two per month. This has not always happened. Charlie would like to go to one per month. Charlie will attempt to schedule two each month, with one guaranteed.

Because we have had better response with hobby shop gift certificates, we will be raffling gift certificates 2 months out of 3 and only purchase items from Harbor Freight 1 month out of 3.

**PIEDMONT DIVISION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING REPORT  
October 12, 2010**

***Operations - Continued***

We have been offered space at no cost by HobbyTown USA for our quarterly hands-on clinics.

Charlie would like to schedule a clinic on Saturday February 19, 2011 for the 1st quarter of 2011. The space and public visibility is positive for the division and HobbyTown.

***Membership – David Gilly (report submitted in advance)***

July 2010 attendance was 104, with one visitor. 12-month meeting attendance average is 100; 24 month is 97.

New Members – 6 - 3 were Rail Pass memberships, one full membership with SouthErneR subscription.

Prior to the meeting, David sent a spreadsheet with attendance figures.

**Committee Reports**

***Achievement Program—Bob McIntyre (report submitted in advance)***

Bob is waiting on Bill Zawacki's Chief Dispatcher Certificate. Other entries are slowed going into the end of the year. The Model Contest is scheduled of October.

***Peachtree Express— Bob McIntyre (report submitted in advance)***

2013 National Convention: Bob did finally receive a response for Robert Amsler on our split request. It raises more questions than it answers. If the NMRA wants a 50/50% split, he is going to bump more projects back on the NMRA. He just needs to have that clarified.

***Piedmont Pilgrimage - Bob McIntyre (report submitted in advance)***

The booklets have been printed. They have been mailed to the Piedmont members. The postcards have been mailed to the general list. Bob has been notified that the Pilgrimage will appear Points North Magazine in their schedule of events for November. This was a project Bob was working on earlier in the year.

***Member Aid— Bob McIntyre (report submitted in advance)***

No questions submitted. Bob will continue to providing modeling tips at the announcements.

**PIEDMONT DIVISION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING REPORT  
October 12, 2010**

***Advertising and Promotion/Division Apparel—Gary Jarabek (report submitted in advance)***

**Advertising:**

Monthly Meetings

NMRA submitted through February 2011 Issue

Railroad Model Craftsman submitted through February 2011 Issue.

Trains.com submitted through February 2011

NMRA: October and November issues

Railroad Model Craftsman: October and November issues

Trains.com

Train Show

Trains.com

**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.

There is one mistake shirt left (med) for sale at \$33.00.

***Model Train Show (2011) –Joe Gelmini (report submitted in advance)***

We have sold or reserved 65% (174 of 266 planned) vendor tables for the show.

First vendor mailing was sent October 4.

Charlie Crawford is designing the display layout area. In addition to the kid's layout, we are planning layouts in N, HO, S, O, G and Lego.

The train show website is being updated.

We plan to present a proposal to establish a raffle layout committee **independent** of the train show committee at the Special BOD meeting October 10.

***Good and Welfare –Joe Gelmini (report submitted in advance)***

Sympathy cards sent to the families of recently-deceased members Jim Gibson (Steel City Division) and Foy Johnston.

Get well card to Dick Hillman, recovering from liver surgery and awaiting heart surgery.

**PIEDMONT DIVISION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING REPORT  
October 12, 2010**

***Timetable-Rick Coble***

Q4 Timetable distributed. At the Strategic Planning Meeting, Rick announced that he is stepping down as Timetable editor, as soon as a replacement is found.

***Website-Scott Povlot (report submitted in advance)***

Website Report:

During September 2010 -the web site had 16,240 page requests.

***Boy Scout Merit Badge Program-John Stevens (report submitted in advance)***

1. John still doesn't have the Atlas Genset locomotives for the switching layouts. They are due in soon. Once they arrive, Scott Chatfield and John will be installing decoders in them.
2. John is still working on getting new freight cars for the switching layouts. John hopes to complete this portion of the project prior to the spring session.
3. Work continues on James Deaton's Eagle Scout Project to build a storage shed for the switching layouts that will be located on the museum grounds. The cement floor was poured in early September. James and his troop had a work session on October 2nd which John attended with his son, John. There were 17 people there helping James with his project. We managed to get the four walls framed and erected. John knows there will be another work session on Saturday, October 9th from 10-4. He hopes to have the project completed by the end of the month. The project is under budget.
4. John plans on presenting some type of merit badge program at the national convention in 2013. John is still undecided on the type of program we will present. John will keep the BOD updated on which approach he chooses.
5. The fall session was held on September 18, 2010. We had 28 scouts in attendance. That brings the program total to 440 scouts. We were hoping to have someone from the Kennesaw museum in attendance to observe the program, but for various reasons that did not occur.

James Deaton thanked the Piedmont Division for its donation. He plans to install the shed's floor Saturday. Volunteers will be provided breakfast and lunch.

***Name Badges-Bill Lyons***

Bill reports requests for seven badges since the last meeting, bringing the total to 80.

***Facilities - Alan Mole/Howard Goodwin***

The BOD toured the Doubletree 10/12/10 and held its BOD meeting at the hotel. The Doubletree is a candidate for a future meeting and event facility.

**PIEDMONT DIVISION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING REPORT  
October 12, 2010**

***Audio-Visual Production & Promotion Committee-Peter Youngblood (report submitted in advance)***

The Audio-Visual Production & Promotion Committee has presented its Long Range Plan for the Piedmont Division. The plan was discussed during the Strategic Planning Meeting.

***Raffle Layouts 2011 and Beyond***

In May, the Board of Directors approved the purchase of Steve Berkheimer's HOG layout. Howard is looking for an individual to head up sales.

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

At the Strategic Planning Meeting, Gary Jarabek and Joe Gelmini submitted a proposal to create a standalone raffle layout committee. Responsibilities would include promotion of the layout, ticket sales, supervision of construction, and transportation of the layout.

***Donation Layouts (Joe Gelmini and Howard Goodwin)***

Joe Gelmini

A layout has been donated to the division by Ms Ruth Bruhns of Snellville. It was moved from her house by Terry Weldon and is currently stored at Westside Baptist Church in Snellville.

In August, Len Polinsky suggested that the layout be offered to the Empire Division/2011 Convention staff.

The offer was accepted by the 2011 convention staff.

Howard Goodwin

Howard took possession of a model railroad layout in late July. The 11.5' x 5.5' layout is currently stored at Rob Dodds' house.

Ideas for the layout could be sale, with advertised on our website (need to set a price) or tie in with the Southeastern Railway Museum.

***SER Web Hosting-Scott Povlot***

Scott proposed Piedmont Division hosting of SER web sites at the SER Fall Board meeting on October 9, 2010. The Board approved the proposal.

**PIEDMONT DIVISION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING REPORT  
October 12, 2010**

***Hospital Layout - Howard Goodwin/Joe Gelmini***

Bob Chambers sent Howard Goodwin a proposal to assist with the installation of a layout to the Northeast Georgia Medical Center. The layout would be housed in the pediatric wing of the hospital. The layout is HO scale, and is the property of a retired doctor in the Gainesville area.

Joe Gelmini was contacted by the doctor's son concerning the layout. He would like to donate the layout to the hospital and is looking for a group to set and maintain the layout. A hospital in the Dallas/Ft. Worth area has a layout in its pediatric wing. That layout is very popular.

After discussion, it was agreed that a larger scale layout would be a better fit for the hospital, as the HO scale equipment would most likely be damaged by small children.

Ongoing maintenance should be the responsibility of the hospital, contracting directly with an organization located in the Gainesville area. The Piedmont Division is not equipped to provide ongoing maintenance.

Scott Chatfield will contact Mike Devaney about viewing and evaluating the layout.

***Policy For Accepting Layouts***

With the number of layouts recently offered to the Piedmont Division, it was decided that guidelines are needed for accepting donations. Joe Sullivan has composed a draft policy and is incorporating feedback into a revision. This was discussed at the Strategic Planning Meeting.

***Outreach Program***

With the number of potential public appearances by the division increasing, a program to find volunteers and match them to the opportunities is needed. Joe Sullivan stepped forward to start an outreach program. This was discussed at the Strategic Planning Meeting.

Howard Goodwin noted that a lack of volunteers caused the division to miss an opportunity to participate in Atlanta parenting magazine's Family Block Party, held October 9, 2010.

Bill Zawacki asked Howard Goodwin to discuss the Outreach program and missed opportunity at the general meeting.

***Peachtree Express / 2011 Narrow Gauge Convention-Howard Goodwin***

Howard Goodwin has been in touch with an organizer of the 2011 Narrow Gauge Convention, to be held in Hickory, NC, about participating in the 2011 Narrow Gauge Convention in Hickory, NC. Participation would include providing/finding clinicians and displaying the convention booth. This is a great opportunity to reach modelers who are willing to travel to conventions.

***2010 Holiday Party***

Mike Deaton requested \$250 for division expenses related to the 2010 Holiday Party. The BOD approved an amount up to \$300.

**PIEDMONT DIVISION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING REPORT  
October 12, 2010**

**New Business**

***Strategic Planning Meeting***

The 2011 Strategic Planning Meeting was held at the Southern Museum of Civil War and Locomotive History.

Topics with follow up this month are:

- Appointment of Raffle Layout chair and finalize duties/responsibilities of committee. Separation from Train Show committee.
- Outreach program/volunteer coordinator.

Both will be announced at the general meeting.

***Southeastern Region BOD Meeting***

Joe Gelmini updated the BOD on the SER Board Meeting in Macon. He will also report on the meeting and tour of the 2011 convention facilities at the General Meeting. Joe will discuss the upcoming bylaws changes with the general membership.

***A/V Equipment – Video Splitter***

Ongoing discussions concerning the purchase/rental of a video splitter continued at the SPM. The splitter is currently rented.

Charlie Crawford brought forth a proposal on behalf of the Audio-Visual Production & Promotion Committee to use the anonymous donation to purchase the video splitter.

Scott Povlot made a motion that the Piedmont Division uses the \$500 anonymous donation towards the purchase of the video splitter. The Board approved the purchase of the video splitter for \$500 plus tax.

***Doubletree Tour/Facility Review***

Members of the Board of Directors and other interested parties toured the DoubleTree Hotel prior to the BOD meeting. The DoubleTree Hotel is a candidate for a future meeting and event facility.

Charlie Crawford commented that the capacity is not much larger than the capacity of the Elk's Lodge, and the price is significantly higher. As a reason for looking at new space is increasing meeting attendance, we should look for a larger space.

Joe Gelmini noted that we should investigate alternative seating arrangements at the Elk's Lodge to increase seating capacity. Gary Jarabek added that the Elk's Lodge's official room capacity is 225.

Joe Gelmini commented that there is less disruption at the Hickory House.

Perry Lamb's Church is a candidate for a future facility.

**PIEDMONT DIVISION**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING REPORT**  
**October 12, 2010**

The facilities group will continue to investigate. The BOD will return to the Old Hickory House in November.

The Meeting Adjourned 6:47 PM

Respectfully submitted,  
Rick Coble, Director of Administration