

Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Club

Minutes of the Membership Meeting of August 19th, 2021

1. Call Meeting to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Vice President Wayne Aiken who also led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll Call of Members in Attendance and on Zoom

Those attending in person were Wayne Aiken, Bernie Dawson, Dan Egy, Randy Foulke, Tom Garren, Ken Howard, Mike Johns, Mike Keelean, Clif Kelly, George Lasley, Mike Marsh, Ken Wesp and Bob Witwer.

Attending by Zoom were Doug Alumbaugh, Jerry Davis, Scott Hall, Ted Kunstling, Tom Magnani, Larry Pearlman, John Spach and Steve Wills.

3. Recognition of Guests in Attendance and on Zoom

Attending in person were Michael Giles, Mike Mitricska and Dr. Lou Monville.

Attending by Zoom were Bill and Darlene Edwards, Ethan Fuller, and Owen Maddux.

Mike Keelean, representing the Membership Committee, put forth Bill and Darlene Edwards, Ethan Fuller, Mike Mitricska, Dr. Lou Monville, and Owen Maddux as being eligible to be voted in as members of the Club.

George Lasley made a motion that we suspend the rules and not require paper ballots for this vote. The motion was seconded by Randy Foulke and passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Mike Keelean and seconded by Ken Howard that we accept these applicants for membership in the Club. The motion passed unanimously, and we welcomed six new members to the Club.

4. Minutes of the Last Meeting Approved as Published – (read if needed)- motion to accept

Mike Johns made a motion to accept the minutes of the last meeting. It was seconded by Bob Witwer and passed unanimously.

5. Treasurer's Report – motion to accept

Mike Keelean gave the Treasurer's report. A motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by Tom Garren and seconded by Ken Howard. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Communications with the Club

a. Phone, mail, email

George Lasley reported that he has followed up on all inquiries we currently have from people wanting to dispose of equipment. At this point the folks making the inquiries are deciding if they want to sell or donate.

George also made the membership aware of a 7x12 HO layout for sale in Southern Pines. It has approximately 50 engines and 150 pieces of rolling stock, structures etc. The owner is downsizing. Contact George for more information if interested.

John Spach stated that we need an email address that we can dedicate to our eBay account. We have had no luck obtaining the password for one of our accounts. Steve Wills thinks he has one that may work. He will get the information to John Spach.

7. Committee Reports – as needed

a. Membership

Tonight, we voted in a record six new members.

b. Ways and Means

Nothing to report

c. House

Mike Keelan reported that we need to shift the for-sale items for the show to the front storage room.

Wayne Aiken stated that we need to move the paint cabinet to the rear storage room where all Senior members have access.

d. Engineering

Mike Johns reported that a switch has been replaced on track two. This was updated to report that we have changed two switches on the HO layout. Steve Wills asked members who find problems with the track on the HO layout to leave a detailed note near the location of the problem so it can be fixed. Wayne Aiken noted how effective acquiring spare switches has been.

Bernie Dawson asked that HO material not be placed on the white table at the end of the N scale layout. Materials should be put away when projects are done. Wayne Aiken noted that there are rolling carts under the HO layout that should be used for storage.

e. Program

Tom Garren reported that a new page has been added to our website. This will be used to post the meeting minutes. This will free up space in the Whistle Post for more fun content.

Tom also reported that another new page will be created in the near future so that our library listing can be posted online.

Ted Kunstling reminded us that Lt. Commander David Bright is scheduled to speak at the September 13 Raleigh Civil War Round Table (CWRT) meeting on his book *Locomotives Up the Turnpike*, an account of a raid early in the Civil War when Stonewall Jackson captured a quantity of B&O RR locomotives and rolling stock and hauled them over roads with horses and mules to be used by the Confederates. The meeting will be hybrid in-person / Zoom at 7:00 PM. Ted will send an invitation to be forwarded to NRVMMR Club and CS RR Club members inviting their attendance.

Also noted - Dave Bright's website www.csa-railroads.com is amazing with tons of info and entertaining accounts

8. Old Business

a. Fall show November 6 & 7, 2021 updates as needed

George Lasley reported that checks are coming in for tables at the show.

We have also gotten some cancellations from a few vendors.

We have sold 36 tables to the TCA for them to resell to their members.

We will once again use WRAL for advertising. This year's package includes spots on both WRAL and FOX 50.

After a good discussion, it was decided to not advertise this year in the N&O. We have seen a steady decline in coupons turned in from the newspaper in the last few years. We were encouraged to place flyers throughout the area as well as boosting our Facebook ads for the show.

b. July Open House update

Mike Johns reported that we had a successful open house in July. We had 75 people sign the guest book. Several others did not sign, so we estimate that we had over 100 people in attendance. Wayne asked if the RFI form worked. Tom Garren stated that we received one RFI form and two live applications on July 17th. The people that filled out applications at the Open House were voted into the Club tonight.

Tom Garren mentioned that we should have another Open House in October in advance of our show. It was decided that October 9th will be our next Open House. Hours will be 10:00 am to 4:00 pm, as usual. We will also need Club members to help host the event.

c. Reminder that layout plans and requests are due to the Board prior to the next meeting which will be held on Tuesday Sept 7th, due to Labor Day falling on the regularly scheduled meeting day.

Ken Howard reported that to date he has only received seven responses from members on changes they would like to see on the HO layout. Please send in your requests by September 7th.

d. Additional old business as needed

Steve Wills requested help for the Brick Universe show. This will be on September 25th and 26th. Help is needed on Friday the 24th to load up the Lego layout and get it set up at the Convention Center. If you can help on Friday, please show up at the Clubhouse around Noon to 1:00 pm. This will allow set up around 2:00-3:00 pm. At least three vehicles are needed.

Steve is also requesting volunteers to work the show. He needs 4 people to work each shift. There will be two shifts on Saturday and two shifts on Sunday. Volunteers receive free admission to the show.

Tom Magnani asked if we had interest in wooden trains to sell at the November show. He had been asked this by Joe Austin. George stated that they would probably sell. Tom will follow up with Joe Austin. He will advise Joe to deliver the wooden trains to the workshop at the Clubhouse.

9. New Business

a. Youth and Junior membership attendance at the Club – requirements for adult supervision and for two Senior members to be in attendance at all times Youth or Junior members are in the Club

a. Discussion and drawing up of official documentation for Club records.

John Spach requested that Tom Garren read the policy as created at the last Board meeting. Tom read the following as recorded in the minutes of the August 2nd Board meeting:

*A motion was made by John Spach and seconded by Ken Howard that we establish a policy that if a minor Youth or Junior member with a parent or guardian requires admission to the building there must be two Senior members present while the minor is in the Club. The only exception to this is if the parent or guardian of the minor is also a Senior member of the Club.
The motion passed unanimously.*

The Board, at their meeting, established a policy that was discussed at length at this meeting. Following the discussion, Ken Wesp made a motion that was seconded by Randy Foulke that the membership ratify the policy established by the Board. The motion passed unanimously.

- b. Need for a volunteer for maintaining the G scale layout and equipment in the Clubhouse
Wayne Aiken restated our request for someone to take the lead on the G scale layout and equipment. Tom Garren suggested that we have a small committee to take this on and work on this and figure out the control systems. Ken Wesp, Ken Howard, Doc Lou Monville and Mike Johns said they would be willing to help. Scott Hall can also help on a limited basis to help figure out the control circuitry.

Wayne asked what folks thought about the Klingspor sanding blocks as track cleaners. It was the opinion of several members that this is the best material for cleaning track. Wayne will pick up a few more of these blocks for the Clubhouse.

- c. Additional new business as needed
Scott Hall asked if the Club had any interest in acquiring a resin printer. He is aware of two 3D printer companies with sales going on currently. Scott admitted this is a specialized product that is a bit fiddly. It was decided to refer this item to the Board. If anyone is interested personally, they should contact Scott Hall.

10. Good and Welfare of the Club

Randy Foulke made everyone aware of Hanger 18, a hobby shop in Cary. It is located on Kildaire Farm Road just south of Maynard Road. They are planning to get more into trains. They specialize in military models and supplies. George Lasley stated that they carry an extensive line of paint and are well worth checking out.

11. Motion for Adjournment

Mike Johns made a motion to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by George Lasley and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:26 pm.

Following the meeting, Ken Howard presented a group of pictures from the Steamtown National Historic Site.