

Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Club

Minutes of the Board of Governors' Meeting of April 4th, 2022

1. Call Meeting to Order and Roll Call of Board

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by President John Spach

Board members attending in person were Wayne Aiken, Richard Calfee, Tom Garren, Ken Howard, Mike Keelean and Bob Witwer.

Attending by Zoom was John Spach.

2. Recognition of Additional Members and Guests in Attendance and on Zoom

Attending in person were Mike Johns, Clif Kelly and Ted Kunstling.

Attending by Zoom were Bill Edwards, Darlene Edwards, Scott Hall, Bill Hanses, and John Mezera.

3. Minutes of the Last Meeting

A motion to accept the minutes of the last meeting as submitted was made by Mike Keelean and seconded by Ken Howard. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Treasurers Report

Mike Keelean gave the Treasurer's report.

A motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by Tom Garren and seconded by Bob Witwer. The motion passed unanimously.

Mike Keelean also reported that the quarterly sales tax has been filed and paid.

John Spach requested that Mike prepare a special report for the next Board meeting that shows the results of our membership emphasis during this fiscal year.

5. Communications with the Club

a. Phone, mail, email

Richard Calfee reported taking several calls which dealt with potential donations, several people wanting to sell trains and a call for George Lasley from the State Fair staff with some questions about our needs at the Spring show.

Another call taken by Calfee was from the widow of Bob Patterson, former Club member. She has decided to donate Bob's DVDs, videos and books to the Club. Calfee will pick up these items on 04/05/2022.

Tom Garren reported working with Wil Seehorn to receive a donation of some magazines for the library.

6. Committee Reports

a. Membership

Don Weaver, a former member, was voted back in as an Associate member by the Board at the breakfast on March 30, 2022.

b. Ways and Means

The Ways and Means committee reported that there will be no dues increase for fiscal year 2022-2023.

John Spach introduced a proposal for charging a small rental fee for the lockers we have at the Clubhouse. The suggested amount was \$5.00 a month or \$50.00 per year.

There was much discussion on this matter with opinions going both ways. Some felt it was an increase of dues for those who have lockers. Others felt the locker is a convenience that allows one to store equipment securely at the Club and well worth the small charge. It was also stated that other organizations charge for on-site storage.

It was decided that John Spach and Tom Garren will contact those members that currently have a locker and get their input and determine if they want to retain their locker, as well as getting their opinion on the rental fee.

Next, the membership will be polled to determine the demand for lockers, if more were available.

Mike Keelean will look into locating more lockers that we can obtain.

An update will be provided at the next Board meeting.

c. House

Mike Keelean reported that he would like to find a different container to use for donations. It was also suggested that we have a sign above the jar to remind visitors that we operate on donations and encourage them to make a donation when visiting.

d. Engineering

Nothing to report.

7. Old Business

a. Spring show 2022 update

Tom Garren reported information received from George Lasley.

The show is still sold out and we are maintaining a waiting list for tables.

Concessions have been arranged for the show.

The Fairgrounds has a list of our needs.

Our insurance certificate has been provided to the Fairgrounds.

Members should plan on being at the building between 10:00 and 10:30 am on Friday, April 29 to finish setting up tables.

Layouts at the show will be North Raleigh, Lego, a small S scale layout and the East Carolina O Gaugers.

Unless something changes, there will be no mask requirement.

- b. Tom Garren also shared information on the Fall show.
The dates will be November 5th and 6th with setup on November 4th.
The website has been updated to show the 2022 information.
Please mark your calendars now for the November show.

- c. Report on the progress of the HO committee
Ken Howard gave an update on the activities of the HO committee.
A work session was held on March 26th at Bob Witwer's storage unit in Clayton to reclaim modules from the Greenville donation for use on the HO expansion.
It was noted that the average age of the workers participating was 75.

As a result of the work session 12 modules were stripped down for reuse, leaving 12 more modules still to be salvaged. During the day, 31 switches of all descriptions were salvaged. There were also 530 pounds of trash taken to the dump as a result of the reclamation process.

There are 12 reclaimed modules and the three staging yard modules ready to be transferred to the Clubhouse for use on the HO expansion.

Ken has shared the current design with committee members.
The next meeting of the HO committee is at 1:00 pm on April 24th at the Clubhouse. At the meeting the plan will be discussed further, and dates set to begin construction, hopefully in May.

John Spach asked Mike Keelean for O scale items for use on the raffle layout for the Spring show.

Mike Johns stated that he is willing to donate an HO layout to be sold/raffled at a future show. Thanks Mike!!

- d. Water Heater Update
Ken Howard reported that he has found tankless water heaters for \$120.00. They will require a 30 amp 120 volt circuit for installation. We will investigate to determine whether there are such circuits available at the Clubhouse.

John Spach has an electrician friend who can check out our wiring and advise us as to what is available.

- e. Vacuum Cleaners
Another item discussed was that of vacuum cleaners. We seem to have quite a number at the Club but are lacking some that work well for layout cleaning. Ted Kunstling suggested that we donate any working vacuums that we do not need to another charity in the area for use by needy families.

Mike Johns volunteered to investigate the vacuum cleaner situation and make recommendations back to the Board for further action.

- f. **Shirt Order**
Another question concerned our upcoming shirt order. John Mezera needs a sample of our logo to show to a vendor with whom he is working. It was suggested that John take a shirt from the Clubhouse so the vendor can fully understand what we are requesting.
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- 8. **New Business**
 - a. Ted Kunstling asked about the availability of NRV decals for rolling stock. Ted was referred to George Lasley for decals and plans showing the locations where the decals should be applied.
 - b. Mike Johns asked about plans for an Open House. It has been determined that we will set a date and hold an Open House after the Spring show.
 - c. Mike Keelean reminded everyone that dues collection will begin at the end of May for the next fiscal year.
 - d. Ken Howard reminded everyone that the deadline for submissions for the April Whistle Post is April 16th.
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- 9. **Adjournment of Meeting**
Tom Garren made a motion to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Bob Witwer and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:59 pm.