

Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Club

Minutes of the Membership Meeting of June 16, 2022

1. Call Meeting to Order and Pledge of Allegiance
The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by President John Spach.
The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Randy Foulke.

2. Roll Call of Members in Attendance and on Zoom
Members attending in person were Randy Foulke, Ken Howard, Mike Keelean, Ted Kunstling, George Lasley, George Sawyer, John Spach, Ken Wesp and Bob Witwer.

Members attending by Zoom were Jerry Davis, Peter Donofrio, Tom Garren, Owen Maddux, and Tom Magnani,

3. Recognition of Guests in Attendance and on Zoom
Two guests were in attendance via Zoom, James Carpenter and Ralph James.

4. Minutes of the Last Meeting
A motion was made by George Lasley to approve the minutes of the last meeting as submitted. It was seconded by Bob Witwer and passed unanimously.

5. Treasurers Summary Report
Mike Keelean gave the Treasurer's report. In his report he mentioned that he has collected approximately 37% of the dues for the new fiscal year so far. We are off to a great start.
George Lasley made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report. It was seconded by Tom Garren and passed unanimously.

6. Communications with the Club
It was reported that Marilyn Calfee is recovering well from her surgery.

7. Committee Reports
 - a. Membership Committee
Ralph James was eligible to be voted in as a Senior member. George Sawyer made a motion to accept Ralph as a Senior member. It was seconded by Tom Garren and passed unanimously. Welcome Ralph!!

 - b. Ways and Means
Dues for the new year are now due.

 - c. Facilities
 - i. Parking - potential problems and solutions
George Lasley reported that he is having 12 signs made that say, "No Gym Parking". Eight towing signs are also being made.
George has also studied the Ace Towing website to learn what is required to use their services.

There are several forms that must be filled out and signed. The first must be signed by our landlord Tom Fisher.

We will have to create a list of approved callers that are authorized to call Ace and request towing when needed.

Bob Witwer is having stickers made to identify our cars.

Ted Kunstling reminded us that we need to know the specifics of our parking situation.

The only gym parking should be in the gym parking lot, and their curb cut should be their only access to Old Louisburg Road.

Tom Magnani suggested that we put a note about parking on the answering machine and the website.

- ii. Mike Keelean mentioned that we have some matting coming up in the workshop area. He is trying to identify a solution for this problem. He also mentioned that he has not yet installed the black plastic as landscaping material in case the plastic may be used to solve the problem in the shop.
- iii. Thanks to Mike Keelean and his grandson Ian for cleaning the carpet in the Clubhouse.

8. Show and Tell

- a. John Spach brought in an HO scale New York Central rotary snow plow for all to see.
- b. Tom Magnani sent in some information from the NMRA about a compatibility problem in some sounded DCC locomotives.

9. Old Business

- a. Review of HO Layout Committee Progress and Plans Going Forward
Ken Howard reported that all of the new modules have been stripped down and are ready for the next steps required to incorporate them into the layout. The next steps are to reassemble the modules, put down the foam and adjust the height for uniformity.

The next HO meeting is on Sunday, June 19th at 1:00 pm at the Clubhouse. Ken noted that we will need twelve 8 foot 1x4s, eight sheets of foam, and 30 casters for the new modules. We have the dowels needed to install the casters. George Lasley noted that lately he has found better lumber at The Home Depot rather than Lowes.

Information for work on each module is available on the HO room door. John Spach stated that he has a neighbor that is available to help with the wood work when the time comes.

- b. CPD 13 Visit

Randy Foulke reported on the Carolina Piedmont Division of NMRA will stop by for a visit at the Clubhouse this Saturday. It is expected that they will bring thirteen or fourteen people to see the Club. We hope to have all of the layouts running for the visit.

c. Updates on Fall Show

The deposit has been paid to the State Fairgrounds for the Fall show.

Plans are to have the vendor letters out by the end of the month.

We have inquiries from new vendors wanting tables.

We have had contact with a person from Washington state that builds modular wooden railway layouts. He is willing to display a layout at the Fall show at no cost to the Club. Plans are to give him space in the layout area.

Fall show advertising is will be spots around the traffic reports and weather reports. The normal commercial space will be taken up by political commercials since our show is before the election.

Ralph James asked a question about a liability form for the show. Are we covered? Do we need to investigate? This should be discussed at a Board meeting.

Looks like we have a good shot at the Expo building for next Spring. We should know more next week.

d. Trip Plan for Visit to Tichy Trains and Tour

Randy Foulke announced that he and John Wallis are now the Club's social directors. Our first outing will be a trip to Tichy Trains in Burlington on July 9th. All members are encouraged to attend. Don Tichy, the owner, is an avid model railroader and manufacturer. A great chance to see how model trains are made. We should plan to arrive at 12:45 pm so he can lock the doors at 1:00 pm. We will need to provide the number of people attending the tour. There is generally a 20% discount on merchandise for those attending a tour.

We may want to carpool from either the Clubhouse or Barry's parking lot. Look for an email with all the details in the near future.

e. Member Request for Assistance at Lego Brick Universe

Steve Wills has requested help from the membership with his Lego layout at the upcoming Brick Universe. Look for an email with the details next week.

f. Module Auction

Tom Garren gave an update on the module auction.

Modules one and ten are being auctioned to members by sealed bid.

The minimum bid is \$200.00.

The bids will be opened at the July Board meeting and the winners will be asked to remove the modules from the Club by Sunday July 10th.

10. New Business

- a. Mike Keelean reported that the G scale controls will be moved to the front room and simplified. The space freed up by this move will be converted into additional storage for the Library.

b. Upcoming Programs

Members are encouraged to make John Spach aware of your desire to present a program to the Club. If you have an item of interest, a specialty, or just something cool related to trains, please contact John so your program can get into the schedule.

It is desirable to have programs scheduled several months in advance. We also need some presentations ready for showing that can be used on short notice in the event of the planned program being unexpectedly canceled.

c. Additional New Business

Peter Denofrio asked if we will use manual or powered switches on the HO expansion.

Ken Howard stated that the decision has not yet been made about switch control.

11. Program

Jerry Davis provided an impromptu program featuring two slide sets. The first was a group of photos taken in 1964 by Jerry of the East Tennessee and Western North Carolina Railway still running steam. Locomotive 208 was featured which we believe became Southern Railway 722 when traded back to the Southern for diesels.

The second set of slides was from Jerry's friend Pete Thorpe from California. Included were pictures of both prototype and model trains.

12. Adjournment of Meeting

George Sawyer made a motion to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Tom Garren and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:46 pm.