

Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Club

Minutes of the Board of Governors' Meeting of July 5, 2022

1. Call Meeting to Order and Roll Call of Board

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

Board members in attendance were Wayne Aiken, Tom Garren, Ken Howard, Mike Keelean, John Spach and Bob Witwer.

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

Additional members present included Randy Foulke, Clif Kelly, George Lasley and Don Weaver.

Members attending by Zoom included Jerry Davis, Ted Kunstling and Tom Magnani.

One guest, Darrell Dennis, was also present. Darrell is a Charter member of the Club who is applying to rejoin as an Associate member. Darrell started out in HO but later changed to O scale (2 rail) and G scale.

Mike Keelean made a motion to accept Darrell Dennis back in as an Associate member. The motion was seconded by Bob Witwer and passed unanimously. Welcome back Darrell.

3. Minutes of the Last Meeting

Ken Howard made a motion to accept the minutes of the last meeting as submitted. It was seconded by Bob Witwer and passed unanimously.

4. Treasurers Report

Mike Keelean gave the Treasurer's report. Thirty nine of our seventy six members have paid their dues so far this fiscal year.

Mike mentioned two people that have applied but have not followed through on pursuing membership. They will be dropped from the list and roster. They are David Wildman and Alex London.

Mike also made the Board aware of a donation for the purpose of providing dues for youth members who may need it.

John Spach requested a list of expired members from the last two or three years. He will work up a letter from the President to send to them encouraging them to consider rejoining the Club.

Tom Garren made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report. It was seconded by Ken Howard and passed unanimously.

5. Communications with the Club

a. Mike Keelean is following up with an Art Thompson who left a message on the phone.

b. Wayne Aiken reported the receipt of a large magazine collection from Gene Sing.

6. Committee Reports

a. Membership

See notes above on Darrell Dennis returning to the Club.

b. Ways and Means

Nothing to report.

c. House

Trees and shrubs are being cut back near the building and along the south fence to provide room to install the no gym parking signs.

If things are broken in the shop, please report them to Mike Keelean or Wayne Aiken so they can be repaired or replaced.

John Spach suggested that we use the workstation under the test track as the main soldering station in the shop. This should free up the other workstation for other repairs.

It was decided that we need to implement two clipboards in the layout rooms. One will be used to report problems with the layout and the other to report problems with rolling stock and locomotives. Members should use these to report problems including a description of the problem, their name and phone number in case someone needs to get additional information. John Spach will take care of getting the clipboards and getting them installed.

We also need to obtain some additional Digitrax throttles, especially the UP4's. It appears that several have disappeared from the layout room. Members are encouraged to be on the lookout for these older, simpler throttles. Since they are no longer made, we will be looking for used items.

Parking stickers will be provided to Senior and Associate members. Temporary parking permits will be available for others and guests.

e. Engineering

Nothing to report.

7. Old Business.

a. HO Committee

Ken Howard gave a report on the progress of the HO Committee.

The assembling of the new modules is about to begin.

The first work session will be Sunday July 10th at Noon. During this work session the sections of the new modules will be trimmed up and put together.

Two additional work sessions are scheduled. One on Saturday July 16th starting at 10:00 am and the second one on Sunday July 17th starting at Noon. Hopefully, we will be at a point to begin laying track during one of these sessions.

John Spach reported that Ralph James is preparing a work plan for cleaning up the wiring on the HO layout.

Ken stated that he has not yet redone the track plan. The transition from the existing layout to the expansion will be determined as part of this revision. The revision will be forthcoming shortly.

b. Update on Fall Show

i. Layout for Raffle

It is time to begin working on the layout(s) for sale or raffle at the Fall show. We have both an HO and an N scale layout that could be readied for the raffle. The N scale should require less work. Randy Foulke noted that CPD 13 will be raffling off an HO layout. With that in mind, it was decided that we will proceed with preparing the N scale layout for our raffle at the Fall show.

ii. George Lasley reported that we have approximately 60 tables left out of 300 plus tables total. The shuffling around of table assignments has begun. His next task will be to confirm the layouts that will be displayed at the show.

iii. Marketing for the Show

The show is the weekend before election day. This significantly changes the advertising plan for the Fall show. We have received a modified plan from WRAL that was reviewed by the Board.

George Lasley will also look into getting a proposal from WTVD to consider also.

Ken Howard wondered how we get into the various stations' community calendars. John Spach stated that it is often available but must be requested. George noted that there is also another listing across the state that can be tapped. Bob Witwer volunteered to take on the role of media coordinator for the Club.

It was agreed that the Board will make a decision on the advertising package for the Fall show next month.

Wayne Aiken will look into the requirements for posting show notices in the various magazines.

c. Review Plans for this Weekend's Trip to Tichy Train Group

Randy Foulke reported that we currently have eleven signed up to attend the tour at Tichy Train Group this Saturday, with two more possible.

We should plan to arrive at the Tichy location by 12:45 pm.

We will have cars leaving from the Clubhouse, Barry's parking lot and Fuquay.

The group leaving from Barry's parking lot will depart at 12:00 Noon.

d. Additional Old Business

i. Insurance Renewal

The current bill was presented for the renewal of our liability insurance policy. Additionally, George Lasley will follow up with our agent to get pricing for increased coverage on the contents at the Clubhouse. George will report back to the Board at the August meeting.

ii. Shirts

The shirt order has arrived, and Mike Keelean will have them at the Club this weekend.

8. New Business

a. New 2022/23 Org Chart and Committee Assignments

John Spach presented the updated Club org chart showing the committee assignments for fiscal 2022/23

i. Two new committees have been added to the organization

1. Development

The Development committee will determine the needs of the Club going forward and build an action plan to meet those needs. They will identify our options and begin to look for a new location for the Club.

This committee is chaired by Bob Witwer with help from Ted Kunstling and Peter Denofrio.

2. Social

The Social committee is charged with arranging tours, trips and visits for and to the Club.

The committee members are Randy Foulke and John Wallis. The first event is the tour of Tichy Train Group covered above.

ii. G Scale Help

We still need someone to take on the responsibility for our G scale layout. Darrell Dennis has volunteered to help with this responsibility. Thanks Darrell.

b. Lost and Found

Wayne Aiken suggested we set up a designated area for the storage of lost and found items. After some discussion, it was agreed to put a box labeled Lost and Found on top of the file cabinet in the Library.

c. Parking and Towing

George Lasley reported that the “No Gym Parking” signs have been installed. We are also giving six more of these signs to our neighbor.

George also has the forms needed to be able to use Ace Towing to tow parking violators. One thing required is a list of people authorized to call Ace and request towing. It was decided the approved list should include the members of the Board of Governors plus Mike Johns, Brock Bowden and George Lasley.

When calling for a tow we should note the make and model of the car along with the color and license number.

It was felt that out of courtesy we should initially let the gym know before we call for towing to occur.

9. Adjournment of Public Meeting

The public portion of the meeting was adjourned at 8:23 pm.

10. Executive Session

A short executive session was held.

11. Adjournment of Board Meeting

Tom Garren made a motion to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Bob Witwer and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm.