

Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Club

Minutes of the Membership Meeting of July 21, 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 Clif Kelly.

2. Roll Call of Members in attendance and on Zoom

Members attending in person were Wayne Aiken, Richard Calfee, Bernie Dawson, Randy Foulke, Tom Garren, Ken Howard, Mike Keelean, Clif Kelly, Ted Kunstling, George Lasley, Mike Marsh, John Mezera, John Spach, John Wallis, Don Weaver, and Bob Witwer.

Members attending by Zoom were Pete Donofrio, Ralph James, and George Sawyer.

3. Recognition of Guests in Attendance and on Zoom

James Carpenter attended by Zoom. This is his second meeting.

4. Minutes of the Last Meeting

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

5. Treasurers Summary Report

Mike Keelean gave the Treasurer's report. He mentioned that at this time of year we are receiving both dues and payments for tables at the Fall show, so our income at this time is the greatest of the year.

He also mentioned that we are now out of the promotional period from Spectrum, so our internet bill has increased, but is still less than we were paying from our previous provider.

Mike also suggested that we increase the funds allocated to the HO Committee to \$500.00. Ted Kunstling made a motion to increase the funds allocated to the HO Committee to \$500.00. It was seconded by Bob Witwer and passed unanimously.

6. Communications with the Club

a. Richard Calfee reported calls from several people.

- i. Susan Hall has a 4x8 layout to donate. She and her husband will be dropping this off at the Club in the near future.
- ii. Linda Patterson inquired as to whether the Club was open on Thursday.
- iii. Karen Morrow planning to a layout by and donate it.
- iv. Lee Willis inquired about membership and has since filled out an application.

b. Ken Howard reported he is working with Nelson Norden on the donation of an HO layout. He and John Spach will visit the layout to determine the best way to take it apart and remove it from the current location with the least damage.

- c. Wayne Aiken has been contacted by a person from Durham that has an extensive collection of European model railroading magazines for donation. Wayne hopes to hear more around the first of the month.

7. Committee Reports

a. Membership Committee

- i. Tessa Fuller is eligible for membership tonight. Tom Garren made a motion that was seconded by Randy Foulke to accept Tessa Fuller as a Youth member. The motion passed unanimously.
- ii. Calfee reported he is still having trouble getting full information on a Youth member named Grayson.

b. Ways and Means

Dues are coming in, but those who have not yet paid should submit their payments soon.

c. Facilities

Mike Keelean reported that he is prepared to install the black rubber material and finish trimming the shrubbery once the temperature goes down some so that the No Gym Parking signs can be installed.

8. Show and Tell

- a. Ted Kunstling showed a cardboard model of the Flying Scotsman.
- b. George Lasley showed one of the new Virginian Railway battleship 100 ton gondolas just in from Sunset/3rd Rail.
- c. John Mezera showed an HO 3-truck shay.
- d. Wayne Aiken showed two cars that were old Ambroid kits. These are wooden stick built kits from the sixties and seventies.
- e. Mike Keelean reminded everyone that the controls for the G scale layout have been relocated to the front room, making operation of that layout much easier. Members are reminded to turn off the power supplies once they have finished running the G scale layout.

9. Old Business

a. HO Committee Report

Ken Howard reported the progress for the HO committee. The donated modules have been reassembled and placed in their locations on the floor next to the existing HO layout. This shows the footprint of the expansion. Next steps will be to install the casters and elevate the modules to their finished height. The next HO Committee meeting is Sunday, July 24th at 1:00 pm.

Tom Garren mentioned a donation from Jerry Davis of a UP4R and a UR91 which will give us simplex wireless capability on the HO layout.

John Spach mentioned spending some time with Jerry Davis and getting some suggestions and ideas to improve our DCC performance on the HO layout.

b. Updates on Fall Show

- i. George Lasley reported that we have only 14 tables left to be rented.
- ii. We think Don Tichy and Tichy Train Group may exhibit at the Fall show.
- iii. Randy Foulke has contacted Railroad Model Craftsman (White River Publications) and NMRA with information on the Fall show. Both of these publications will use submissions of this type on a space available basis. Next year we will want to submit earlier.
- iv. Ted Kunstling reported that his church will once again be doing barbeque plates on the Saturday of the show and will take orders and deliver.

c. Update on Parking Issues and Procedures

- i. George Lasley reported that he is still working with our neighbor to work out the details for towing if and when needed. He hopes to have this completed soon.
- ii. Questions were asked if one calls for a tow and the car moves before the truck arrives will we be charged. It was determined that we do not know for sure, but based on past experience, this is normally not a problem, especially if you call back and tell the towing service that the car have been moved or left.

d. Additional Old Business

- i. Tom Garren showed an example of a guest parking sign created by George Sawyer. This is for future consideration.
- ii. Tom Garren also reminded everyone to use the latest Membership Application form (dated 08/05/2021) when having perspective members apply for membership. This version requests more information that will make processing the application more efficient.

10. New Business

- a. The N scale layout currently in storage needs to be prepped for the raffle at the Fall show. A work session will be planned late in August to begin this work.
- b. Bernie Dawson asked everyone to take time to notice the changes on the N scale layout. We now have three additional members working on the layout and the result of their work is very noticeable in a positive way.
- c. Randy Foulke is working on extending the history of the Neuse River Valley Railway to cover the period from 1990 to the present. He also mentioned that he has talked to Don Tichy about making custom decals for us. He is capable of making decals in O, HO and N scale. The first sheet will cost \$35.00 which includes a set up charge. Subsequent sheets will be \$20.00. Work will need to be done to identify the decals we need and provide Don with a good PDF file from which to work.

George Lasley mentioned that he would like to see us redo the master for the older cars as well as having decals for the new cars and locomotives.

John Spach stated that he has access to a senior graphics designer that can help when it is time to create the master file.

11. Program

This month we had a special program on Trouble shooting DCC by John Wallis. John's presentation has been placed on our website and can be found at this link:

<https://nrvcclub.net/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/NRV-20220721-DCC-Troubleshooting.pdf>

12. Adjournment of Meeting

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by John Wallis and seconded by Tom Garren. It passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 8:59 pm.