

# **Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Club**

## **Minutes of the Membership Meeting of August 18, 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 Bernie Dawson.

2. Roll Call of Members in attendance and on Zoom

Members attending in person were Wayne Aiken, Richard Calfee, Tim Covell, Bernie Dawson, Darrell Dennis, Randy Foulke, Ken Howard, Mike Keelean, George Lasley, Mike Marsh, John Spach, John Wallis, Don Weaver, and Bob Witwer.

Members attending by Zoom were Jerry Davis, Tom Garren, Ted Kunstling, Tom Magnani, John Mezera, and George Sawyer.

3. Recognition of Guests in Attendance and on Zoom

Dillon Scallan and Madelyn were in person guests.

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

4. Minutes of the Last Meeting

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

5. Treasurers Report

Mike Keelean gave the Treasurer's report. He mentioned that we are down to only four or five Senior members who still owe dues.

George Lasley reminded the membership if dues are not paid by September 01, the member will no longer be in good standing. This means they cannot vote, hold office or have a key to the building.

John Spach asked Tom Garren to send an email to members who are still delinquent after September 01.

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

6. Communications with the Club

Ted Kunstling reported that he occasionally gets requests on Facebook from people wanting to sell their collections. He advised them that we receive donations, or if they are intent on selling, they should call Nick's Trains.

7. Committee Reports

a. Membership Committee

There are currently only two outstanding applications for membership.

b. Ways and Means Committee

Nothing to report.

c. House Committee

George Lasley reported no change in the parking situation. He is working on ironing out the details with our neighbor of how to handle cars illegally parked in his spaces.

d. Development Committee

Bob Witwer presented a report from the new Development Committee.

Our current building is just under 3,000 square feet. Rent and power costs are roughly \$18,500 annually. Additional operating expenses bring our annual operating expenses to approximately \$24,000.

We currently have 76 dues paying members.

We must create a major plan with many questions answered before proceeding to make changes or a move.

Interviews have been conducted with several different groups within the Club to identify the wishes.

N scale would like to expand.

O gauge is stable.

The shop is very crowded as is the Library.

We are dependent on income from our two train shows to supplement our dues income.

John Spach asked Dillon Scallan how to attract more members from NC State. Dillon thinks we should reach out to some key professors. This could help us aim to a younger market.

Ted Kunstling requested that the report be made available to the members for additional review and comment.

8. Old Business

a. HO Committee Report

Ken Howard reported we have made much progress for the HO layout expansion.

The current goal is to have one new main line running in time for the September 17<sup>th</sup> Open House.

The newly donated layout has been placed in the storage room. Parts of this layout should give us an HO layout for sale at the Fall show. This will also leave some additional materials and buildings to either use or also sell.

The next HO Committee meeting is Sunday, July 24<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm.

b. Updates on Fall Show

George Lasley reported that we have a few tables left to be rented. He was able to add a block of thirteen tables between the layouts and the regular vendor area.

We will have at least two new layouts this year including a modular G scale and the wooden layout from the Wilmington museum.

Ken Howard reported that we are in solid shape for both O and HO items for the Fall show. We can always use N, S, and G scale items.

John Spach noted that we need to develop a marketing program to help sell the Club to attendees at the show. Bob Witwer was asked to lead the development effort on this package.

Ted Kunstling requested a Facebook friendly version of the show flyer for use on our Facebook page. (This has since been supplied by Tom Garren.)

Randy Foulke is continuing to work on getting our information in both the NMRA publication and several of the magazines.

George Lasley is making a table available for members to place items they have for sale. Specific details are forthcoming.

9. New Business

a. Randy Foulke reported that no progress has yet been made on obtaining NRV decals from Tichy Train Group. Randy is continuing to work an expanded history of the NRV and to define new color schemes. Once all this work is complete, then work can begin to obtain the new decals.

b. Mike Keelean has returned from a trip and highly recommends two Pennsylvania Bed and Breakfasts for railfans. The Bridge View in Marysville and the Tunnel Inn Bed and Breakfast in Gallitzin.

10. Program

This month Tom Garren presented a program on The Wreck of the Old 97, the Wreck and the Song. Tom's presentation has been placed on our website and can be found at this link: <https://nrvclub.net/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/The-Wreck-of-the-Old-97.pdf>.

John Wallis also reminded members that the annual weekend commemorating the wreck will be held this year on September 25-26 in Danville, VA.

11. Adjournment of Meeting

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Bernie Dawson and seconded by Bob Witwer. It passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.