

Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Club

Minutes of the Membership Meeting of October 20, 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, Tom Charnley, Bernie Dawson, Tom Garren, Ken Howard, Mike Keelean, Clif Kelly, Ted Kunstling, Mike Marsh, John Spach, John Wallis, Don Weaver, Ron Wertenberg, and Bob Witwer.

Members attending by Zoom were Doug Alumbaugh, Tim Covell, Jerry Davis, Cedar Johnston, and George Sawyer.

3. Recognition of Guests in Attendance and on Zoom

Guests attending in person were Ed Bottum, Kelly Darden, Alan Servas and Adam Servas. This was Ed's fifth meeting. This was Kelly, Alan and Adam's first meeting.

Guests attending by Zoom were Liam Bryant and Jon Spargur. This is Liam's second meeting and Jon's first meeting.

4. Minutes of the Last Meeting

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

5. Treasurers Report

Mike Keelean gave the Treasurer's report. The income tax was completed this week.

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

6. Communications with the Club

Richard Calfee reported talking to a person willing to donate an HO layout in Chapel Hill if we will cut it up and remove it from its location on the third floor of his house. After some thought and discussion with other members, it was decided to decline this offer.

Calfee also confirmed a group from the Brookville Senior Living facility in Chapel Hill will bring 10 or 11 people over to tour the Club on Tuesday November 15th. The tour is planned to begin at 10:30 am with us arriving around 10:00 am to prepare to receive the group.

Ken Howard reported that several email contacts have been made with two different people, Mr. Lewis and Mr. Taylor, who want to make donations to the Club. One donation is HO and the other one is a combination of HO and N equipment. The Lewis donation will arrive at the Clubhouse this Saturday. The Taylor donation details are being worked out now. A friend will be transporting this equipment to the Club for him.

Ken further stated that we have received a box of predominantly HO items donated by Madelyn Stole were shipped to the Clubhouse from the Chapel Hill area.

Tom Garren reported on an email from a Richard Milward with a group of Lionel items for donation. *A follow up email received the day after the meeting from Milward indicated that the actual owner of the items wanted to sell them rather than donate them. He has been placed on a waiting list for a table at our Fall show.*

Mike Keelean is working with Bill Knapp to see if there is the potential for donation for some of Bill's equipment.

Ken noted that Wayne Aiken and Don Weaver had picked up the Fetterman donation. Mike Keelean noted that we have already experienced good sales from some of the pieces from this donation.

John Spach reviewed the progress thus far on the large donation from Ken Ross. Members should be prepared to make another pickup run this upcoming Wednesday. Look for an email with more details.

Ted Kunstling shared that he had created an event on Facebook for our show and it was well received.

7. Committee Reports

a. Membership Committee

Ed Bottum and Liam Bryant were in attendance tonight. Both have satisfied the two meeting requirement for membership. Ted Kunstling made a motion that we suspend the rules and accept Ed and Liam for membership by acclamation. The motion was seconded by Bob Witwer and passed unanimously.

b. Ways and Means Committee

Nothing to report.

c. Facilities Committee

Mike Keelean reported that new shelves have been requested to be added in the hallway to increase the capacity of the Library.

He also mentioned that we need more G scale equipment to add variety to the G scale layout. He also mentioned that we have some old, excess G scale equipment that we may wish to sell. Some of it may need repairs before we can sell it.

John Spach also reported that there is no change in the parking situation as the gym has not yet opened. Members are encouraged to get stickers from Mike Keelean to identify their cars.

8. Show and Tell

Bob Witwer shared a technique for making trees using florist wire and static grass and paint. The process is somewhat tedious, but the results are very pleasing and will look good on anyone's layout.

Tom Garren shared the Anywear Neck Lights. This device is worn around your neck. It has two LED lights that can be aimed at your work. Tom has found this hands-free device very useful for putting light where it is needed while modeling.

9. Old Business

a. HO Committee Report

Ken Howard reported scenic materials and high-quality structures are being set aside for use on the HO layout expansion.

Other efforts have been curtailed to make time to prepare for the Fall show.

b. Updates on Fall Show

Tom Garren reported that we are sold out of tables. We need everyone's help to make the show a success.

The schedule of events for the Fall Show is as follows:

Load out of materials at the Clubhouse on Thursday night beginning at 5:30 pm.

Members should be at the Graham Building on Friday between 8:30 and 9:00 am.

Be sure and wear comfortable shoes, bring pliers and gloves.

The dealers will begin to arrive around Noon on Friday.

The building will close Friday night at 8:00 pm.

Saturday morning the doors will open for vendors at 7:00 am and the show opens to the public at 9:00 am. The show closes at 5:00 pm. We should be out of the building by 5:30 pm.

Sunday the building opens at 8:00 am for the vendors and again at 9:00 am for the public. The show will close at 5:00 pm and the breakdown and loading of items will begin. It is predicted that the building will be turned back over to the Fairgrounds staff between 8:30 and 9:00 pm.

John Spach reminded everyone that we will be raffling off an N scale layout and selling an HO winter scene layout. Members are reminded to wear your Club shirts and your badge at the show.

Bernie Dawson stated that he always tries to walk around the show and communicate with the vendors to see how they are doing and perhaps answer any questions they may have.

John Wallis stated that one of their NTrak members from Florida, Andy Zimmerman will be at the show. He is also the chairman of NMRA Standards and Conformance. If you need to communicate something to the NMRA you can talk to Andy at the show.

George Lasley is making a table available for members to place items they have for sale. See George for specific details.

Mike Keelean reported that our O scale portable layout will be set up at the show on Friday. He feels that we have enough volunteers to man the layout and not take away from other show tasks.

Kelly Darden mentioned the Visit Raleigh website as another potential free advertising site for us to use for the show. Ted Kunstling will look into this for the Club.

c. Development Committee

Bob Witwer reported that he is working with a representative from Coldwell Banker who has feelers out to see what might be found that would be a suitable new location for the Club.

10. New Business

Don Weaver requested that members that have old equipment bring it into the Clubhouse and run it on our layouts.

Ken Howard is seeking content for upcoming newsletters. Please send your contributions to Ken. Especially needed are photos of home layouts as well as photos of real trains, websites, etc.

John Spach reminded everyone that we need people to volunteer to do programs for our Membership meetings.

11. Program

This month John Wallis presented a program on Changing a Wiring Standard in N scale modular layouts. The information is pertinent for all scales. John's presentation has been placed on our website and can be found at this link:

<https://nrclub.net/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/NRV-20221020-Evolution-Wiring-Standards.pdf>

Jerry Davis noted that there are fake power poles being sold that do not perform as well as the originals. Be sure you are purchasing the real thing.

12. Adjournment of Meeting

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Tom Garren and seconded by Bob Witwer. It passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 8:38 pm.