

Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Club

Minutes of the Board of Governors' Meeting of February 6, 2023

1. Call Meeting to Order and Roll Call of Board

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

Board members in attendance were Richard Calfee, Tom Garren, Ken Howard, Mike Keelean, and Bob Witwer.

John Spach attended by Zoom.

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

Additional members attending in person were Randy Foulke, Clif Kelly, Ted Kunstling, George Lasley, and Don Weaver.

Additional members attending by Zoom were Liam Bryant, and Scott Hall.

Guests attending the meeting by Zoom included Jimmy Hall and Alex McCullen. This is Jimmy Hall's second meeting. He will be eligible for membership at the February 16th meeting.

This is Alex McCullen's first meeting. He models in HO scale and his favorite railroad is the Seaboard Airline.

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. Mike suggested that we move \$5,000.00 to a CD with Truist and \$5,000.00 to our Edwards Jones account.

Bob Witwer made a motion to approve this move. It was seconded by Tom Garren and passed unanimously.

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

5. Communications with the Club

- a. Richard Calfee reported a message on the answering machine in which caller did not leave his contact information.
- b. Mike Keelean reported that we are about to receive another O gauge donation.
- c. George Lasley reported that he has talked about donations to several people at Nick's Trains.

6. Committee Reports – as needed

a. Membership

See guest notes above.

b. Ways and Means

Bob Witwer commented that if we want to move to a different facility, we will have to raise the dues if we are to stay in this real estate market. We will need to determine what level of dues we are willing to pay to allow a move. This does not have to be done tonight, but we must give this thought and make a determination.

c. House

The additional shelves for the Library are on hold while our carpenter recovers from a muscle strain.

d. Engineering

No report

7. Old Business.

a. Report on the progress of the HO committee layout expansion

Ken Howard reported that work is now being done to lay track on Main 2 extension.

We expect to have a wiring plan on Wednesday.

This Saturday, February 11th is the Thomasville train show. Ken Howard, Randy Foulke, Tom Garren, and Bob Witwer will be going to man the sales table. We will be taking several items to sell along with the materials needed to advertise the Club and the Spring show. Mike Keelean is also taking the travelling O gauge layout.

b. John Spach thanked Randy Foulke for obtaining the new throttles for the HO layout and for Liam Bryant for 3-D printing some holders for the throttles.

c. Update on Spring Show

George Lasley reported that we have only six tables left, two doubles and two singles. They are not in contiguous locations, so combinations are not possible. He also reported that the contract with the Fairgrounds has been signed and delivered to them along with our deposit.

Randy Foulke has prepared the ads to go to Model Railroader and White River productions. He will send them to the magazines later in the week.

d. Mike Keelean reported the O gauge team will also be taking items for sale to Thomasville as well as the HO team.

8. New Business

a. Trip to Spencer – Randy Foulke

Randy Foulke reported the plans for the April 28 trip to Spencer. Tom Garren will send an email to all members with the details later this week. Anyone wishing to confirm taking the trip, or with questions should contact Randy Foulke.

b. Banning Food and Drinks from the Layout Rooms

After several occurrences of spillage and layout damage in recent weeks, it has been decided to ban food and beverages from the layouts. This pertains

particularly to the HO and N scale room. Tom Garren has prepared a sign to this effect, and it has been installed on the door into the room. Mike Keelean stated that is not a problem for the O gauge layout and opted not to put a sign up there. Randy Foulke noted someone had left smoke fluid bottles sitting on the layout and some fluid had run down the bottle to the layout. For now we are not pursuing additional action on the smoke fluid.

Randy Foulke requested that we create a policy for storing the new throttles. He volunteered to create a strawman of this policy and any signs needed.

Randy Foulke also suggested that we think about how we handle people that show up regularly but are not members. We should determine how many times one can visit before being asked to join or pay a fee.

On a positive note, Tom Garren reported that he and Richard Calfee ran two trains simultaneously on Main one with no problem for an hour or so on Saturday morning.

c. Funding Requests from Committees

Tom Garren made a motion that we authorize Mike Keelean to get a second credit card machine and have it ready for use at the Spring Show. Bob Witwer seconded the motion. John Spach amended the motion to authorize two machines if we can get a deal from the bank. The motion as amended passed unanimously.

d. Mike Keelean requested that he be authorized to purchase two new soldering stations to replace the damaged irons currently in the shop. Tom Garren made a motion to authorized this purchase. Bob Witwer seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mike Keelean also asked Scott Hall to present a brief soldering training session after an upcoming Membership meeting.

9. Good and Welfare of the Club

Ken Howard reported that we are having trouble covering the Club at opening time on Sunday morning. We need to make sure we have someone here to open up the Club by 10:00 am on Sunday.

John Spach has written a letter to the family of Mike Mitricska. He is working with the funeral home to help get it delivered.

10. Motion for adjournment of Board Meeting

Mike Keelean made a motion to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Bob Witwer and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 pm.