

Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Club

Minutes of the HO Committee Meeting of April 16th, 2023

1. Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:09 pm by Ken Howard. Members in attendance included Wayne Aiken, Randy Foulke, Tom Garren, Jimmy Hall, Ken Howard, Colin Martinko, and Tom Tieman.

2. Review of Progress to Date

Ken Howard reported that the Command Station has been sent back to Digitrax for repair and should be returned to us soon. This should fix the problems we were having when running a DC only locomotive on 00.

Ken Howard also reported that the wye is now fully functional. However, switch number four needs to be leveled for better operation. Ken will take a look at this problem and Colin will also look at it, time permitting.

Also, because of polarity issues, it is not possible to operate analog (DC) engines through the wye. Although they can be run successfully on the Main #2 loop, they cannot be reversed without manual intervention.

3. Next Steps Discussed

The crossover on Main #4 needs to be removed. Also, the pier set that will lead up to the bridge entrance to the extension needs to be installed. Randy Foulke will take this on.

The group was challenged to come up with suggestions for how to complete the industrial area. There are now two parallel sidings. Do we want to continue this way or should the track plan and building placement be changed? Randy Foulke, Tom Tieman and Colin Martinko have agreed to work on this challenge. Ken Howard has already started with the business section of the town and has shown the proposed street layout.

Colin Martinko asked how the piers were to be completed for Main #4? Ken stated that they will ultimately be covered with scenery. They will be hidden but used to establish a consistent grade.

Colin Martinko also stated that the layout needs a yard to be complete. This may not be happening now but should be considered for the future.

Ken Howard noted that the original concept for the expansion was to create a layout that could support operating sessions.

Members were asked to take all of this discussion into consideration and be prepared to finalize the design of the industrial area during the weekend of May 13th and 14th. We

will need to check our inventory to determine if we have the materials needed to complete the plan.

The next construction phase will begin after the Spring train show.

The May meeting of the HO Committee will be held on Sunday, May 14th at 1 pm in the Clubhouse.