

# **Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Club**

## **Minutes of the Board of Governors' Meeting of August 7, 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 in person were Wayne Aiken, Richard Calfee, Tom Garren, Ken Howard, Mike Keelean, and John Spach. Bob Witwer attended by Zoom.

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

Additional members attending in person were Bernie Dawson, Randy Foulke, Clif Kelly, Ted Kunstling, George Lasley, and John Mezera.

Additional members attending by Zoom included Ed Bottum, Jimmy Hall, Jack Rouviere, George Sawyer, John Wallis, and Don Weaver.

Guests tonight attended by Zoom and included Alex London and Gary and Dillon Martin. This is Alex's first meeting.

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 Richard Calfee and passed unanimously.

4. Treasurers Report

Mike Keelean gave the Treasurer's report and reported that money is coming in from the sale of tables at the Fall show and the payment of dues.

John Spach set a goal to reach \$100,000.00 in the bank by the end of fiscal year 2025.

Tom Garren made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report. It was seconded by Richard Calfee and passed unanimously.

5. Communications with the Club

a. Richard Calfee noted an O scale donation that the Club has received.

b. Ken Howard reported an N scale donation that we have received. He also noted that we have received a donation of some HO passenger cars and a locomotive kit from member Erik Dyke.

c. Wayne Aiken announced that he is awaiting the delivery of another donation of magazines. At the present time we have over 11,700 magazines and 2,200 books in the Library.

d. George Lasley also reported an upcoming donation of more magazines.

- e. Tom Garren reported that he is working on an upcoming donation of both N and HO scale equipment from the Shelby area. More on this donation later.

## 6. Committee Reports

### a. Membership

Tom Garren reported that we have two applicants that could be voted into membership at the August 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. One is Youth applicant Jimmy Dawson. The second is Alex London, if Alex makes the August meeting.

### b. Ways and Means

Nothing to report.

### c. Facilities

Mike Keelean reported that landscaping work has been completed for now. He also noted that we need a replacement bulb for the floor lamp in the corner of the meeting room.

John Spach noted the work that has been done to improve the Shop, including:

- The floor tiles have been patched to work better
- The soldering station has been moved
- One chair mat has been added to the Shop with another on the way.
- In general, the Shop has been cleaned up and this effort is continuing.
- Members are encouraged to put stuff back when they have finished using it. This applies to anything in the Shop, tools and materials.
- We need to be vigilant and not allow children in the Shop. This is in keeping with our policies.
- We have a new reference book in the Shop. This will be permanently located there.
- The only person with permission to use the 3D printer is Liam Bryant.

Ted Kunstling mentioned a column in the NMRA magazine about tools useful to model railroaders. John Spach noted that the acquisition of additional tools is underway.

## 7. Old Business

### a. Fall Show

George Lasley reported that there are only two tables left on the main show floor. There are additional tables available in the annex room off of the main show floor.

Randy Foulke reported that the ads for the show have been placed with Model Railroader and the NMRA.

Tom Garren requested funding to buy two more large sandwich signs for the show. George Lasley requested two additional large signs for use in the building.

Richard Calfee made a motion to approve the purchase of four more large sandwich signs for use at the show. The motion was seconded by Ken Howard and passed unanimously.

b. HO Committee

Ken Howard reported that work continues on the HO expansion. Some of the scenery is ready to be glued down.

We have received a roll of screen wire from Bob Witwer to be used in scenicking the expansion.

The bridges are in the process of being weathered.

Several younger members are taking an active part in laying track and working on scenery.

Wayne Aiken stated that there is a supply of plastic sheets under the layout.

Ken Howard noted that we have had some intermittent electrical problems. It is believed this was caused by a tank car with a metal frame and metal trucks and wheelsets shorting the layout. The car has now been removed.

Ralph James is preparing a maintenance and troubleshooting manual to allow more people to troubleshoot and resolve problems.

c. Rules Committee

Randy Foulke presented the outline for the development of the “Rules of the Road” manual. The details will be developed by each layout committee as well as the Membership committee. Randy stated that it is not unusual for a club of our size to create a document such as this to help document the rules and procedures that need to be followed.

George Sawyer asked for clarification on the new Trackage Fee policy.

John Spach stated that once paid, the person has access to any and all of our layouts for that day.

John Spach made a motion to accept the outline as presented by the Rules Committee and charge the other committees to begin their work. He also stated that the Rules Committee will develop sections II and V. The motion was seconded by Ken Howard and passed unanimously.

d. Open House

John Spach reminded the members that we have an Open House scheduled for Saturday, October 7<sup>th</sup>. We are looking for this effort to be led by Clif Kelly and Mike Johns.

e. Shirts

In the absence of Collin Martinko, Randy Foulke gave a report on the new vendor and our Club shirts.

- The vendor has completed the master for our Club logo.

- We have asked for a sample of a polo shirt.
- The vendor will send invoices directly to Mike Keelean.
- If needed, Collin will travel to Lexington to pick up our orders when they are ready.
- The vendor can offer a cadet collar sweatshirt. We need more information on this.
- John Spach asked if we could get the PST file from the vendor.
- It is desirable to get an order in before the Fall show.
- John Spach stated that these items should be sold to members on a prepaid basis and that Collin will be put in charge of collecting the money.

## 8. New Business

### a. Membership Ad

Randy Foulke presented a proposal to place an ad for membership in the NMRA magazine. This was met with approval.

### b. Upcoming Club Trips

Randy Foulke announced a Club trip for Saturday, August 19<sup>th</sup> to Aberdeen and Hamlet. Plans are to meet at either the Clubhouse or Barry's Café and leave around 8:30 am to arrive in Aberdeen around 10:30. More details will be sent in and email to the members.

A second trip is tentatively planned for September 16 to Greensboro. This is in conjunction with the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Greensboro club, the Central Midland Railway. Look for more details on this trip later.

### c. Programs

Randy Foulke noted that we are good on volunteers to present programs through December of 2023.

### d. Roster

George Lasley asked about the progress on having a published roster. He suggested that it include name, telephone number and email address.

John Spach created a new committee consisting of Tom Garren and Ken Howard to investigate and report at the September Membership Meeting on how we proceed with the distribution of a roster to the membership.

## 9. Adjournment

Tom Garren made a motion to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Ken Howard and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:44 pm.