

# **Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Club**

## **Minutes of the Board of Governors' Meeting of January 02, 2024**

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, John Spach, and Bob Witwer.

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

Additional members attending in person were Jake Forbes, Randy Foulke, Clif Kelly, Ted Kunstling, George Lasley, Collin Martinko, John Wallis, and Don Weaver.

Additional members attending by Zoom included Jerry Davis, Haydon Harrison, and Larry Pearlman.

One guest attending by Zoom tonight was Braylan Teague. This is Brylan's third meeting.

3. Minutes of the Last Meeting

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

4. Treasurers Report

There was no Treasurer's report as Mike Keelean was out of town.

5. Communications with the Club

- a. Richard Calfee reported talking to a person named Cameron that wanted help programming a DCC HO engine.
- b. Randy Foulke reported he has received a note of thanks from the lady with the Friends of Ukraine. Also, a donation check is being sent to the Club.
- c. Tom Garren reported that John Mezera is in the hospital. Once he gets well he will be making a donation to the Club of wood and foam to be used on the HO expansion.
- d. Ted Kunstling received a donation for the Club from a friend of his at church. Rick Emerick donated a box of HO equipment and a box of American Flyer equipment.
- e. Larry Pearlman also recently made a donation of HO, O, and S gauge equipment.
- f. Wayne Aiken reported talking to someone named Barry who is thinking about coming to visit the Club soon and perhaps, join.

6. Committee Reports

a. Membership

Clif Kelly has been named our new Membership chairman. He reported that he has sent a new member email to four of our new members welcoming them to the Club and letting

them know how much their dues are. He is also working on a modified version of the communication for Youth members.

b. Ways and Means  
Nothing to report.

c. Facilities  
Collin Martinko reported that our current stock of supplies is in good shape. He also noted that if the Club is kept clean, he will not have to have an intervention and a work session to correct the problems.

d. Engineering  
HO – Ken Howard reported that scenery continues to grow in the industrial area thanks to Collin. The next HO committee meeting will be Sunday, January 21<sup>st</sup> at 1:00 pm.  
Bob Witwer stated our next effort is to get the track installed up to the sawmill.

O – Don Weaver reported that new switches have been installed on the O gauge layout. One of the switches needs some work.

S – Don Weaver also reported that Ralph James is working on a power box for the S gauge layout. This set of switches and wiring will allow any of the tracks on the layout to be run on either AC or DC power.

N – John Spach reported that two new passing tracks have been installed. Also, two new setup tracks have been installed which allows for trains to be made up or removed from the layout and not interfere with operations on the main.

The edges of both the HO and N scale layouts look better thanks to painting work done by Richard Calfee.

## 7. Old Business

### a. Spring Show

George Lasley reported that we have about 30 tables still available in the Expo building. This is based on the requests from the last show.

There will be a stuffing party at breakfast in the morning to prepare the vendor letters and information packets to be mailed soon.

Ken Mitchell with the TCA is working with Lionel to see if he can get a commitment from them to have a presence at the Spring show.

John Wallis reported that he is working to get a commitment from the NTrak group to set up a layout at the show. He already has a commitment from the TTrak group for setting up a layout at the show.

b. Social Committee

Randy Foulke of the Social committee and George Lasley announced that plans have been finalized for our first annual NRV Social Dinner. The dinner will be held on February 01 starting at 6:00 pm at Angie's Restaurant in Garner. Members are reminded to wear their nametags. An email with full details has been sent to the membership.

Also from the Social committee, John Wallis announced that we need a volunteer to provide a program for the April 2024 Membership meeting. Larry Pearlman volunteered to provide this program.

c. Rules Committee

Randy Foulke gave a report from the Rules committee. He presented an updated document on throttle usage. This led to much discussion. It is felt that members should ultimately provide their own throttle. This concept was voiced by several members. It was also recommended to use cell phones as throttles.

We can also increase our inventory of old Digitrax throttles for guests or a member needing to borrow a Club throttle. A timeline for the implementation of this policy is needed. John Spach made an appeal for donations of old Digitrax throttles. Ken Howard noted that we need to inventory all of our Digitrax throttles. We also ultimately need to securely store these assets and check them out as needed for usage.

The Rules committee will refine this recommendation and identify a timeline for implementation. These updates will be brought back to the Board at the February Board meeting.

A motion was made by Ken Howard and seconded by Tom Garren to approve the work done on the Throttle Usage document thus far. The Rules committee is requested to finish the document and bring it back to Board in February for final approval.

The Rules committee's next tasks are to complete the Members and Facilities part of the rules manual.

8. New Business

a. Dues Question

Don Weaver inquired if there were any actions underway to collect delinquent dues. Clif Kelly, membership chair, is working on that with actions expected soon.

b. Shirts

Collin Martinko reported that he is planning a new shirt order using the same form and payment methods as used last year. Look for more information on the new shirt order in the near future.

c. Charitable Giving

Randy Foulke requested information about our annual charitable giving effort. John Spach noted that we collected money at the December Membership meeting and will take up money again at the January Membership meeting. Once the funds have been collected, the Club will match the first \$500.00. The treasurer will then write checks to the designated charities.

d. Amtrak Surprise

Ted Kunstling reported that he and his wife were on the Amtrak train car in the Raleigh Union Station when the Raleigh Police arrested the suspect in the recent stabbing event.

9. Adjournment of the Meeting

Richard Calfee made a motion to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Tom Garren and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:15pm.