

Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Club

Minutes of the Membership Meeting of January 18, 2024

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 Alan Bradley, Bernie Dawson, Dan Egy, Randy Foulke, Tom Garren, Haydon Harrison, Ken Howard, Mike Keelean, Clif Kelly, George Lasley, Larry Martin, Don McPherson, Ken Reising, Jim Smith, John Spach, John Wallis, Don Weaver, Ron Wertenberg, and Bob Witwer.

Members attending by Zoom included Ed Bottum, Richard Calfee, Jerry Davis, Pete Donofrio, Jake Forbes, Collin Martinko, John Mezera, Adam Servas, and Gene Sing.

3. Recognition of Guests in Attendance and on Zoom
Five guests attended by Zoom. They were Barry Goldberg, Brian Heaton, Taylor Lang, Elliot Susseles, and Brylan Teague. This is the first meeting for Barry, Brian, and Elliot. This is Taylor's second meeting and Bryland's third second meeting.

4. Minutes of the Last Meeting
John Wallis made a motion to approve the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Alan Bradley and passed unanimously.

5. Treasurers Report
Mike Keelean gave the Treasurer's report. George Lasley made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report. It was seconded by Randy Foulke and passed unanimously.

6. Show and Tell
 - a. Don Weaver showed the results of running a Lionel car body through the dishwasher. In this case all the paint was removed from the body.
 - b. John Spach showed a Lionel HO automatic milk can car.

7. Communications with the Club
 - a. Richard Calfee mentioned some calls he had taken for the Club.
 - b. Ken Howard reported donations from Larry Pearlman, Ron Wertenberg, Tim Covel and Jerry Davis.

8. Committee Reports
 - a. Membership Committee
Clif Kelly reported that Brylan Teague is eligible to be voted in to membership tonight. George Lasley made a motion to accept Brylan Teague for membership. The motion was seconded by Randy Foulke and passed unanimously.

Tom Garren reported that we have one more person eligible for membership tonight. Taylor Lang has also met the meeting requirement and can be voted on tonight. Once again George Lasley made a motion to accept Taylor Lang for membership. It was seconded by Alan Bradley and passed unanimously.

___Brylan Teague is an Associate member.

___Taylor Lang is a Senior member.

b. Ways and Means
Nothing to report.

c. Facilities
Collin Martinko reminded everyone to make sure the trash is being taken out especially if food is involved. Also, let Collin know if any supplies are needed.

d. Engineering
N Scale Layout
Bernie Dawson reported working on staging tracks. They are also working with Ralph James to be able to use telephones as throttles. John Wallis is donating a raspberry pi computer to provide the Wi-Fi connection on the N scale layout. Dan Egy asked some questions about using cell phones as throttles.

HO Scale Layout

Ken Howard reported that scenery work continues in the industrial area and track work on the main four extension up into the hills.

Bob Witwer reported that Pete Denofrio has installed the cork roadbed up to the bridge.

Richard Calfee has been repainting the edges of the layout.

The next meeting of the HO committee will be Sunday, January 21st at 1:00 pm. Items on the agenda include a track plan for modifying Main 4 and sidings on module nine as well as looking yard possibilities inside and under the mountain. There will also be discussions on how we want to operate the layout. This will include documentation proposed by Randy Foulke and the Rules committee for both layout operation and new member orientation.

Bob Witwer noted that we will need a large number of trees in the next couple of months. Members are encouraged to go ahead and begin to build the trees for scenicing the expansion.

The next meeting will also generate a project list so members will know where their efforts are most needed. Following this list will allow work to progress in a logical fashion on the HO layout.

S Gauge

Don Weaver reported that Ralph James has created a control box for the S gauge layout. This will allow operation of both AC or DC on each of the tracks. This system is working well.

O Gauge

Mike Keelean reported that they have repaired several engines. They can now determine which engines they want to keep for the layout and which engines they want to sell.

Roadbed has been installed on the upper level of the layout and a lighted marquee is now working on the theater.

G Scale

Mike Keelean reported that more power is desired for the G scale layout. Thought is being given to using a similar solution as was employed on the S gauge layout that uses a ZW transformer for the power supply along with the appropriate rectifiers and other circuitry required to run DC locomotives.

Also, members are reminded to turn off the power packs when you are through running the G scale layout. One was recently found left on.

e. Program Committee

John Wallis reported that we have programs lined up through June of 2024.

f. Social Committee

Randy Foulke reminded everyone that we have a dinner scheduled for February 01 at Angie's Restaurant in Garner.

John Spach reminded the members about several upcoming events.

February 10th Trackside Train Day in Thomasville. We will have tables there.

March 09th Mebane Train show. We will have tables there.

April 20th Open House from 10:00 4:00 at the Clubhouse.

September 26-29 Mid-Eastern Region NRMA convention; includes a tour of our Club. We need to determine the best date for the visit.

9. Old Business

a. Spring Show

George Lasley reported that the Spring show is almost sold out. We are still hoping to get Lionel to attend and display.

b. Fall Show

The Fall show has been moved to November 9-10 and has been moved to the Expo building. This move will reduce the number of layouts we can display.

We hope to keep the show on the second weekend of November going forward and hope to go back to the Graham building beginning in 2025.

There will also be a rate increase at the Fairgrounds beginning in 2025.

Tom Garren reported that he has updated the website to reflect these changes.

Tom Garren will also advise Ted Kunstling of these changes.

c. Charitable Donation

In keeping with our normal practice, we will once again take up a donation at the December and January meetings to be given two organizations in the area. The Club will match the first \$500.00.

After some discussion, a motion was made by John Wallis and seconded by Tom Garren to approve the donations for this year to go to Helping Hands Mission and the Durham Rescue mission. The motion passed unanimously.

Mike Keelean will prepare and mail the checks.

d. Shirt Order

Collin Martinko reported that he is taking order forms for shirts through the February Membership meeting. As before, payment must be made in advance and placed in the Treasurer's box and the corresponding order forms in the designated box also in the Library.

e. Internal Communications

John Spach reminded everyone that each Board member has a purple folder located in the Library. Completed RFI and Membership applications should be placed in Tom Garren's folder. Please use these folders to help insure that paperwork that needs attention is not lost or delayed receiving the action needed.

f. Tubs

Ken Howard reminded the members that there are several surplus tubs for sale. If they have not been purchased by the end of the month, they will be donated.

g. Donations

Don Weaver had question about donation forms. It was verified that the person making the donation has the responsibility to itemize. The Club does not itemize or determine the value of the donation.

h. Outside Maintenance

Mike Keelean noted that the area outside of the building needs to be cleaned up. This item will be referred to Collin Martinko.

10. New Business

a. Shop

Mike Keelean reported that we have a new drill press and small grinder in the shop.

11. Program

Ken Howard did a program of railroad pictures made during his recent trip to Arizona.

12. Adjournment

A motion was made by John Wallis and seconded by Ken Howard to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.