

# **Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Club**

## **Minutes of the Membership Meeting of December 21, 2023**

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.

John Spach announced the passing of member Tom Tiemann last night. The Club held a moment of silence in honor of Tom.

2. Roll Call of Members in Attendance and on Zoom

Members attending in person were Wayne Aiken, Alan Bradley, Liam Bryant, Bernie Dawson, Jake Forbes, Tom Garren, Clif Kelly, George Lasley, Terry Luft, Collin Martinko, Don McPherson, Adam Servas, Alan Servas, John Spach, John Wallis, and Bob Witwer.

Members attending by Zoom included Ed Bottum, Richard Calfee, Tim Covell, Kelly Darden, Jerry Davis, Pete Donofrio, and Gene Sing.

3. Recognition of Guests in Attendance and on Zoom

Paul Lebiezinski attended in person. Three guests attended by Zoom. They were James Carpenter, Taylor Long, and Brandt Wilkus. This is Taylor's first meeting and Brandt's second meeting.

4. Minutes of the Last Meeting

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

5. Treasurers Report

Clif Kelly gave the Treasurer's report in the absence of Mike Keelean. George Lasley made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report. It was seconded by John Wallis and passed unanimously.

6. Show and Tell

- a. Adam Servas showed several bridges that have been donated.
- b. Don McPherson showed a Canadian Pacific D10 class ten wheeler in HO.

7. Communications with the Club

- a. John Spach reported taking a donation from Larry Pearlman. It is a combination of O, S, and HO equipment.
- b. John Spach also reported we have received a donation from Ann Williams. It is an HO donation of items from western New York.
- c. John Spach also noted that Tom Tiemann passed away early this morning. Tom will be missed at the Club.

- d. Tom Garren reported a special package of C&O Historical Society books is now available to anyone interested through December 29<sup>th</sup>. This package includes 40 books, representing ten years of publication for this series.

8. Committee Reports

a. Membership Committee

John Spach announced that Clif Kelly has agreed to become our new Membership committee chair.

Tom Garren reported that we have four people eligible for membership tonight.

Paul Lebiezinski for a Senior membership.

Ken Reising for an Associate membership.

Brandt Wilkus for an Associate membership.

Harrison Bui for a Youth membership.

George Lasley made a motion to accept these candidates for membership. The motion was seconded by Jake Forbes and passed unanimously.

b. Ways and Means

George Lasley reported that we need to have a Ways and Means committee meeting in January.

c. Facilities

Collin Martinko reported that he is planning to call some work sessions to aid in the upkeep and appearance of the Club.

d. Library

Wayne Aiken reported that we have recently added over 100 books to the Library.

This includes several N&W books and additional volumes on diesel locomotives.

We also have over 250 videos. Enough so that one could watch videos 24/7 for three weeks without repeating.

There are also a number of excess plastic magazine holders. These are available for purchase by members for \$1.00 each.

e. Shop

John Spach reported that tools are now marked with a bright dot indicating they are Club owned and belong in the Shop. Also, several new tools have been added to replace some that are worn. The worn tools are available in the free box.

The Shop is better organized than ever but is still improving.

f. Engineering

HO Layout.

Bob Witwer reported that we will determine where we can use the bridges from the donation that were shown earlier in the meeting.

### N Scale Layout

Bernie Dawson reported that work is continuing on scenery on the N scale layout. Also, two eight foot sidings are being added to the front of the layout to act as staging tracks.

### G Scale

Alan Servas reported that he has worked on some engines and is planning to clean the track soon.

### O Gauge

George Lasley reported that WNRV is up on the O gauge layout. Meaning that the transmitting tower donated has been installed on the layout.

### S Gauge

John Spach announced that George List is working on several engines for the S gauge layout.

Tom Garren reported that work is underway to install and wire in a box with a series of switches that will allow any track to run as either AC or DC on the S gauge layout. Thanks to Ralph James for this work.

## 9. Old Business

### a. Spring Show

George Lasley reported that work is underway for the Spring show. The vendor letters are being prepared. Plans are to stuff the envelopes at breakfast on January 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Bob Witwer and Bernie Dawson are putting together a staffing plan for the show. Team leaders should make Bob and Bernie aware of their staffing needs.

Bob Witwer is still investigating the possibility of getting a Boy Scout troop to serve as porters to help the vendors set up and tear down at the show.

George Lasley noted that vendors can drive into the building but not drive down the aisles all the way to their tables.

### b. Social Committee

Nothing to report.

### c. Upcoming Shows

John Spach announced two upcoming shows in which the Club will participate. Trackside Train Day in Thomasville on February 10, 2024 from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. Mebane Show on March 09, 2024 from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. Both of these events worked quite well for the Club last year. Ken Howard will be coordinating these events.

d. Spring Open House

The Club will hold our Spring Open House on Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. This will be an all hands on deck event. Please plan to participate. Also look for carpooling opportunities to leave as much parking as possible free for our guests.

e. Family Dinner

Save the date!! The Club will have a family dinner on Thursday, February 01, 2024. The location will be at Angie's Restaurant in Garner. Plan on arriving around 6:30 pm with dinner beginning at 7:00 pm.

This will be fixed entrée meal. Members and their family members will need to sign up and pay in advance as well as make their entrée selection. Coffee for the evening will be N&W coffee courtesy of George Lasley. Look for more information, including pricing, on this event in the near future.

f. NMRA Convention

The mid-East region of the National Model Railroad Association will have a convention in September. The layout tour includes a visit to our Clubhouse. Stay tuned for more information on this upcoming event.

g. Shirt Order

John Spach asked Colling Martinko about the procedure for another shirt order. Collin stated now we will use the same procedure we used for the last order with filling out a form and prepayment.

10. New Business

No new business tonight.

11. Program

John Spach made a presentation on the Welch West Highlands Railroad.

12. Adjournment

John Wallis made a motion to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Tom Garren and approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 pm.