

# **Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Club**

## **Minutes of the HO Committee Meeting of May 19, 2024**

1. Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm by Ken Howard.

2. Roll Call of Members in Attendance

Members attending were Richard Calfee, Ely Carter-Williamson, Tom Garren, Ken Howard, George Lasley, Paul Lebiezinski, Collin Martinko, Don McPherson, John Mezera, Greg Rehe, John Spach, and Bob Witwer.

3. Rocky Mount Trip

Richard Calfee reported favorably on the trip to Rocky Mount to visit the Golden East Railroad Modelers. Ken Howard added that they have 5,000 square feet in the room for their HO layout. They have thirty-three members with the majority of the work being done by twelve or so.

4. New Projects

Ken Howard noted that with the Spring show behind us, we can now get back to work on the HO layout.

Ken reported that Paul Lebiezinski has been working and much improved the framing for the mountain as well as extending the staging tracks under the mountain. There is also room under the mountain for the addition of a four track yard that could be configured to intersect Main 2.

The yard on module 9 is now operational. This is thanks to work of Alan Bradley and Collin Martinko. Next steps for the yard will be to have install new track to interconnect the new yard to Main 3. Collin Martinko was given permission to remove an abandoned piece of track and to create the extension to Main 3.

Ken Howard requested that members look at the new staging tracks under Mount Witwer and submit ideas for expanding the yard and possible connection to Main 2. There is room for an additional staging area with four more tracks. Comments will be reviewed at the next HO committee meeting.

5. Old Business

The old shelves at the back of the room need to be removed and reinstalled level to match the new shelves next to them. Greg Rehe volunteered to take on this project.

6. General Housekeeping

The HO rolling stock needs to be inspected and repaired. The use of bad order cards needs to be emphasized to get the needed repairs done. Last Sunday eleven cars were taken down to make up two short trains. Four of the cars were bad ordered due to coupler problems and a missing door.

It was decided to have a work session on Saturday June 1<sup>st</sup> to inspect the HO rolling stock and perform the needed maintenance. This workshop will take place at the Clubhouse from 10:00-2:00. Remember, there are 300 pieces of rolling stock that need to be inspected and repaired at this workshop. Do not be afraid to remove a car from inventory if it is in questionable condition. Six new cars were added to the inventory during today's meeting.

Members were also reminded that if you see something wrong with the scenery, such as a tree knocked over, please get some glue and replant the tree.

At the last Membership meeting John Spach shared situations that have occurred on the HO and N scale layouts as well as with the Shop recently. It is likely at the next Board meeting that funding will be appropriated to purchase and install motion activated cameras for each room at the Club.

7. Trees

It is agreed that we need many more trees for the HO layout. Paul Lebiezinski has experience with Scenic Express trees and suggested we get a big box. Funding for this purchase was secured via a special Board meeting. Paul will take the lead on building the trees once they have been obtained. George Lasley agreed to order the trees from Nick's.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:48 pm