

Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Club

Minutes of the HO Committee Meeting of June 16, 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 Wayne Aiken, Alan Bradley, Pete Donofrio, Tom Garren, Ken Howard, George Lasley, Don McPherson, Greg Rehe, and Bob Witwer.

One guest, Mike Hinman, also attended today.

3. Work Session

Ken Howard reported that the work session held on June 1st was successful. During the session, 118 cars were inspected. Twenty four of the cars (about 20%) were repaired. Also during the session inventory numbers were verified and records were updated accordingly. Another work session will be needed in the future to complete the work started on June 1st.

4. HO Layout Orientation Document

Ken Howard showed the document from the Rules committee to be used for the orientation of new members about the operation of the HO layout. This two-sided, laminated document is stored with the yellow and green notebooks used for reporting problems and project management on the layout. There was some concern about the length and wordiness of the document. Ken Howard will create an edited version that is briefer.

5. Old Business

The shelves at the rear of the room have been extended and the Club-owned locomotives have been relocated there near the staging tracks. Storage shelves for member-owned equipment are near the front of the room and painted brown.

All track is in on Main 4 including the quarry. Help is needed from Ralph James for wiring the new track. Bob Witwer will talk to Ralph about this project.

A tail track is needed at the lumber camp. Also, the switches on this trackwork need to be activated either by ground throws or Tortoise switch motors. Tom Garren suggested an easy way to fabricate switch linkage using brass tubing and wire.

Pete Donofrio asked about the engines stored in the locked cabinets. Ken Howard stated we are working on a policy that will allow certain members to run these engines. It may involve allowing only Senior members to run these engines to prevent damage.

Ken Howard described a problem we experienced yesterday with an engine. It would run correctly on either a three or four digit number on the test track. When put on the layout it would not operate properly. We are looking for ideas to check out to see if we can

determine what is causing the problem.

Ken Howard announced that Berlin is going away and solicited ideas for how to re-scenic Module 4. Ken will be extending the interior yard. He is also looking for ideas that will create sidings of meaningful length and allow switching new industries on this module.

Ken Howard reminded everyone to be careful not to glue the switches or their linkage when applying scenery near a switch.

Bob Witwer noted that the trestle on the extension is in and now needs support under the bents. Scenery is also needed at the base of the trestle and on up to the mine.

6. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:34 pm.