

## **Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Club**

### **Minutes of the N Scale Committee Meeting of June 01, 2024**

#### 1. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am by Bernie Dawson

Committee members in attendance were Bernie Dawson, Brian Heaton, Ed Bottom, John Wallis, Milo Poulin, Randy Foulke, and Ken Wesp.

#### 2. T-TRAK

John Wallis presented two T-TRAK modules for donation. The two Double Straight modules follow the specifications of the North American T-TRAK Organization and include Kato track and appropriate track wiring.

T-TRAK modules are self-contained and follow recognized specifications so they can be mixed and matched with any other T-TRAK modules. These first two modules will be built out by the club for display at upcoming events and potentially expanded to include a full oval with the creation of additional modules.

The committee agreed creating two dioramas of Carolina tobacco farms from the 1950s or 1960s would allow a variety of rolling stock and the use of elements already in the Club's inventory. Each scene would include a farmhouse, barns, tobacco, soy, and/or corn fields, livestock pens, and accompanying decoration, but not a train depot/stop.

- Ken is exploring transforming a structure from our existing inventory into multiple tobacco barns.

- Ed will locate corduroy to use as tilled farmland. Tobacco plants (likely) do not exist for N Scale; trimming down hedgerows to create rows of tobacco plants standing about waist-high may offer a good substitute.

- John will create digital representations of the modules that can be shared around.

- Each display should use the same source for grass, trees, etc. to create consistency across scenes.

- Disguising the seam between modules could be achieved by overlapping scenery or creating features that can be placed or removed easily, such as rock walls.

- Future expansion should use the same T-TRAK kits and code 80 Kato track to guarantee uniformity.

- Woodland Scenics Just Plug lighting systems would also facilitate easy connections between modules.

#### 3. Committee Budget

Bernie Dawson presented a request from John Spach for a budget of the recurring/monthly maintenance of the N Scale track and equipment. The initial ask will be for \$20/month for upkeep and maintenance. This does not include new requests for capital to support new or future projects.

#### 4. Decals

Randy Foulke is working with Phil to acquire new decals for locomotives and rolling stock. The original supply worked well on light color stock, such as silver, but not with darker cars, such as maroon. The request is to use a darker hue of yellow to ensure the decals are visible in all uses.

5. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 am.