

# **Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Club**

## **Minutes of the Membership Meeting of September 19, 2024**

1. Call Meeting to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Vice President Ken Howard.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Clif Kelly.

2. Roll Call of Members in Attendance and on Zoom

Members attending in person were Wayne Aiken, Bernie Dawson, Darrell Dennis, Pete Donofrio, Jake Forbes, Randy Foulke, Tom Garren, Brian Heaton, , Ken Howard, Clif Kelly, Chuck Larnerd, Larry Martin, Don McPherson, Schaefer O'Neill, Greg Rehe, Alan Servas, Jim Smith, John Spach, John Wallis, Ron Wertenberg, Paul Lebiedzinski, and Bob Witwer.

Members attending by Zoom were Ed Bottum, Liam Bryant, Ely Carter-Willamson, Haydon Harrison, Mike Hinman, Ted Kunstling, Paul Lebiedzinski, Collin Martinko, Mike Poulin, George Sawyer, Adam Servas, and Gene Sing.

3. Recognition of Guests in Attendance and on Zoom

There were two guests in attendance this evening. Kevin Harrington and Chris Kehoe both attended in person. This is the third meeting for Kevin and the first meeting for Chris.

4. Minutes of the Last Meeting

Jim Smith made a motion to approve the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Bob Witwer and passed unanimously.

5. Treasurers Report

Schaefer O'Neill gave the Treasurer's report. Ron Wertenberg made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report. The motion was seconded by Pete Donofrio and passed unanimously.

6. Show and Tell

Randy Foulke showed a custom pen that featured a steam locomotive as the top. It was made by a friend. Randy also showed a set of jewelers screwdrivers that he found on Amazon.

7. Communications with the Club

Schaefer O'Neill reported that a George McCleary was coming by the Club this weekend to donate some HO equipment and C&O Historical Society magazines.

Bob Witwer took a call from someone wanting to donate a box of magazines. Bob told the person that we did not want more magazines.

## 8. Committee Reports

### a. Membership Committee

Clif Kelly reported that we now have 97 paying members. He also recognized Chris Kehoe as attending his first meeting. Kevin Harrington has attended more than two meetings. Randy Foulke made a motion to accept both Kevin Harrington and his son Jude Harrington into membership at the Club. The motion was seconded by Jake Forbes and passed unanimously. Kevin is joining as a Senior member. Jude will be a Youth member.

### b. Ways and Means

The first reading of the proposed Constitution revisions was presented by John Wallis with help from Ken Howard. There will be two more readings after which the Senior members will vote to either accept or reject the proposed changes to the Constitution.

### c. House

Collin Martinko reported that he will be in this weekend and will check the contents of the refrigerator and make sure nothing is out of date. Collin also requested that he be replaced as the House committee chair.

Ken Howard mentioned that we have two open house events scheduled in the next few weeks, and we need to have a work session to clean up outside of the Clubhouse. This includes trimming the shrubs at the corner of the building. After some discussion, it was decided to have a work session to perform the outside cleanup this Saturday beginning at Noon, following the Show committee meeting.

An interior cleanup will be done on Wednesday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> after our weekly breakfast.

### d. Engineering Committee

N Scale – Bernie Dawson reported that the N scale team is moving forward with the addition of scenery on the main N scale layout. They are also still working on their two T Trak modules that will be on display at the Fall show. The group will have a work session on September 21<sup>st</sup> to prepare tobacco plants.

HO – Bob Witwer reported that Milo Poulin has made much progress on the quarry and lumber camp. He also recognized scenery work at the back of the layout by Collin Martinko. Bob also noted that he needs to replace an LED in the new switch panel for the back area of the layout, and some wiring needs to get straightened away. Paul Lebedinsky reported that the four staging tracks under the mountain have been temporarily powered from Main 4. They will ultimately be powered from Main 2.

S Gauge – Nothing to report.

O Gauge – George Sawyer reported that Mike Keelean has been working on the circus train cars. Also, the Club has received a Thomas Lionel set and a K Line

Steam set that can be made available for sale. Additionally, wiring work is needed in several parts of the O gauge layout.

e. Program Committee

John Wallis reported that we have volunteers for programs through August of 2025.

f. Social Committee

Randy Foulke reviewed details of the September 28<sup>th</sup> trip to Greensboro. We have 22 people signed up to go. The trip will include seeing two model layouts, an NRHS museum, and the actual station. The train will leave the Cary station at 10:12 am and return around 5:20 pm. Members going on the trip should be at the Cary station by 9:50 am and board together as a group.

Randy also announced the committee is looking into a location for our annual family dinner. This event will be held sometime in either January or February of 2025. More information to come on this event.

9. Old Business

a. Fall Show

Bob Witwer stated that the show is sold out, and we have received payment from all vendors. The show committee will meet on Saturday at 10 am.

Bernie Dawson reminded everyone to sign up for the various jobs at the show on the staffing sheet on the table in the Crew Lounge. As an incentive to work, the Club will give each volunteer a 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary tee shirt for working at the show. We especially need help for last minute arrivals early Saturday morning.

b. Open House

Ken Howard reminded everyone that our Open House is scheduled for Saturday, October 5<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm. This is an all hands on deck event. Please plan to attend and remember to carpool to save parking places at the Club.

Clif Kelly reminded everyone that we should be at the Club by 9:00 am to get ready for the Open House. Members should also provide refreshments in the form of small soft drinks and/or cookies.

Be aware that our Open House will conflict with Selma Railroad Days. Steve Wills will take his Lego layout to the Selma event. With that in mind, Steve needs help on Friday October 4<sup>th</sup> to set up the layout, during the day Saturday and Sunday, and again on Sunday afternoon October 6<sup>th</sup> to tear down the layout. Please help if you can.

c. Layout Donation

A work session is planned for Sunday September 22<sup>nd</sup> to travel to Carrboro to begin receiving the donation of Tom Tiemann's layout and equipment. A group will leave the Clubhouse at Noon and travel to Carrboro. Initial activities will include packing

up the locomotives and rolling stock as well as the buildings. The layout itself will be evaluated and either taken down and brought to the Club or taken down and scrapped. The entire process will most likely take multiple trips to complete. If you have any questions about this activity please contact Ken Howard.

d. Shirts

Collin Martinko reported that we are working with our vendor to get the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary tee shirts. He is sure that we will have these shirts before the show.

We are also having a regular shirt order by the end of the month. This will include a dozen hats for stock. If you would like to order a regular Club shirt, please fill out an order form and indicate what you want. Place the money in the black box in the Library so that Collin and Schaefer can match up your order with your payment. Your form should be submitted by the end of September to be included in this order.

e. Raffle Layout

Collin Martinko noted that the raffle layout for the show is coming along. The track has been installed and needs to be wired. Also, scenery work has begun. He will need buildings and scenic materials for the layout. It has also been suggested that the layout be set up in the Shop to make it more accessible to those members that are working on it. Collin will come by the Club on Saturday and get with Ken Howard to see what is available in structures and scenery materials, as well as a power pack for the layout.

10. New Business

a. Member Roster

Tom Garren announced that the new member roster is available. This will include name, phone number, email address, and scale/gauge for each Senior, Associate, and Junior member. If you would like a copy, please see Tom. Per the wishes of the membership, this document will not be distributed via email.

b. Magazines

Wayne Aiken reminded everyone that the magazines on the table in the Crew Lounge are Library copies and should not be taken out of the building. He places copies of recent magazines in the lounge for the convenience of the members. If you would like to give a guest some magazines, look in the tub with the blue top underneath the S gauge layout.

c. New Webmaster

We are happy to announce that Brian Heaton is our new webmaster. This is a much needed addition to our team. We look forward to seeing important improvements to our website in the coming months.

Thank you Brian!!!

11. Program

Jake Forbes gave a presentation on how he kit bashed some models to create a Neuse River Valley Berkshire (2-8-4) steam engine in HO scale.

12. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.