

Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Club

Minutes of the Board of Governors' Meeting of November 04, 2024

1. Call Meeting to Order and Roll Call of Board

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by President John Spach. John noted that we are going try to conduct the majority of the Club business at the Board meeting. A summary of the Board meeting will be presented at the Membership meeting. This will allow more time for fun items at the monthly Membership meetings.

Board members in attendance in person were Richard Calfee, Tom Garren, Ken Howard, Schaefer O'Neill, George Sawyer, John Spach, and Bob Witwer.

2. Recognition of Additional Members and Guests in Attendance and on Zoom

Additional members attending in person were Wayne Aiken, Alan Bradley, Ely Carter-Williamson, Bernie Dawson, Mike Hinman, Clif Kelly, Ted Kunstling, John Mezera, and John Wallis.

Additional members attending by Zoom included Kelly Darden and Tom Magnani.

We had two guests tonight, Gerald Powell attended in person and Robert Spohr attended by Zoom. This is the second meeting for both of these guests. Gerald has turned in an application. Robert has submitted an RFI form. Gerald is retired from Amtrak and models in HO. Robert models in N scale.

3. Minutes of the Last Meeting

Ken Howard made a motion to accept the minutes of the last meeting as submitted. It was seconded by Bob Witwer and passed unanimously.

4. Treasurers Report

Schaefer O'Neill gave the Treasurer's report. Bob Witwer made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report. The motion was seconded by George Sawyer and passed unanimously.

6. Communications with the Club

Richard Calfee reported having spoken with Sharon Menke. She needed someone to repair an American Flyer locomotive. She was put in touch with George List who has agreed to make the repair as an individual, not as a representative of the Club.

Richard Calfee also took a call from Glenda at Carolina Weekly who he got in touch with Bob Witwer.

Mike Garver also called in and volunteered to work at the show on Sunday.

7. Committee Reports

a. Membership

Clif Kelly reported that we currently have 100 members with the prospect of getting two more as early as our November Membership meeting. We currently have two applications in the works and are hoping to get one more after the show.

b. Ways and Means

There was nothing new to report from Ways and Means. The membership was reminded that the third reading and vote on the Constitution changes will occur at the November 21st Membership Meeting. A reminder about the vote will be included in the Whistle Post and in the meeting notice for the November 21st Membership meeting.

c. Facilities

Shop - Mike Hinman stated nothing to report on the Shop.

Security - Mike Hinman reported that he has removed the handle from our outdoor spigot to prevent someone from turning it on unobserved and allowing the water to run for a long time. This occurred at the building next door. Mike has also obtained the contact information for Jim Schaefer, owner of the building next door, so we know who to call should the need arise.

House Upkeep Committee - John Spach stated that we are still looking for an Inside House committee lead and an Outside House committee lead. John will ask for volunteers for these positions at the Membership meeting. If none come forward, we may have to voluntold someone.

After the show we need an outdoor cleanup session. Look for more on this later.

d. Engineering

N Scale – Bernie Dawson reported that the team has completed one TTrak module to display at the show. This is all the work done recently.

HO – Ken Howard reported that most work on the HO layout is on hold until after the show.

O Gauge

George Sawyer reported that much work has been done to repair some donated items as well as pricing them and other items for the show.

e. Program Committee

John Wallis reported that we have programs lined up through August of 2025.

f. Social Committee

John Wallis also reported that Randy Foulke will pick up work on the Amherst trip after the show. This is also true of efforts to plan the Club Dinner.

8. Old Business

Fall Show

Bob Witwer gave a summary of the activities we have done to get ready for the show.

- A new Show Committee has been established.
- New Flyers were developed by Greg Rehe.
- The floorplan of the building was optimized by Bob Witwer.
- We have developed a vendor database with significant work from Tom Garren.
- We have sold out of vendor tables.
- We have eight layouts that will be in operation at the show.
- A staffing plan has been developed with much work from Bernie Dawson. We have over 70% of the membership volunteering to work at the show.
- Our younger members have built a raffle layout for the show.
- Randy Foulke has procured additional signs to better advertise the show.
- John Wallis has worked to get us thirteen sponsors for the show as well as eight door prizes.
- Schaefer O'Neill has obtained lanyards and will print the inserts that will identify the wearer as a volunteer, vendor, or layout worker.
- Kelly Darden has worked to create a presence in the online advertising community. Kelly gave a summary of these outlets to the membership.
- Greg Rehe has managed the ads we have submitted to the magazines.
- We have had over 38,000 impressions on Facebook and 23,000 views on Eventbrite.
- A new QR code has been created for people to use who want to know more about the Club.
- We will have coffee in the morning at the show.

Facebook

Ted Kunstling has placed show advertising on our Facebook page and has boosted it several times to build up interest in the show.

9. New Business

Upcoming Events

Ken Howard reminded everyone that we will have another visit from Brookdale Senior Living on November 19th. We need the help of several members to assure that we can have all layouts running, and we can visit with our guests.

Ken also reminded everyone of the two shows that we try to do each year. Thomasville will be in February and Mebane will be in March. We have reserved four tables for Mebane and hope add two more, if they become available.

10. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by George Sawyer. The motion was seconded by Richard Calfee and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:53 pm.