

# **Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Club**

## **Minutes of the Board of Governors' Meeting of February 02, 2026**

### **1. Call Meeting to Order and Roll Call of Board**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by President John Spach

Note: This meeting was held on Zoom only

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

### **2. Recognition of Additional Members Attending in person and on Zoom**

Additional members attending on Zoom were Alan Bradley, Jeff Cole, Cat Attack, Randy Foulke, Alex Griswold, Scott Hall, Haydon Harrison, George List, Rich Marrello, Jack McDonald, Phil Michaud, Greg Rehe, Ted Salamone, and Carl Zetie.

Two members attended in person. They were Wayne Aiken and Mike Hinman.

One Guest attended by Zoom. Bela Nemeth has applied to become a Senior member. He models in S and N scales. This is Bela's first meeting.

### **3. Minutes of the Last Meeting**

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

### **4. Treasurers Report**

Schaefer O'Neill gave the Treasurer's report.

John Spach reported that we have sold \$750.00 worth of merchandise on eBay.

Tom Garren made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report. The motion was seconded by Ken Howard and passed unanimously.

### **5. Communications with the Club**

Ken Howard reported that we have picked up a donation of Lionel equipment from the Chapel Hill area.

Randy Foulke noted that the Club and any individuals showing personal layouts at the upcoming show in Cary will be required to fill out a form from the Town of Cary. This means that Phil Michaud and Steve Wills will need to complete the form. The form needs to be filled out and returned to Cary before the show. Alan Bradlley will review the form.

Rick Calfee noted he is following up on some twenty messages left on the phone.

Tom Garren reminded the membership that the funeral for Joffre' Fisher has been rescheduled until February 28<sup>th</sup>.

Tom Garren also reported that Bill and Mary Lou Ferguson are having an estate sale on February 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. Look for an email with the details.

6. Committee Reports

a. Membership

Tom Garren reported that we have an application from Bela Nemeth. He is applying for Senior membership. This is his first meeting.

b. Ways and Means

Nothing to report.

c. House

Mike Hinman reported that he has seen some sugar ants near the refrigerator at the Club. Members are advised to keep an eye out for other locations around the building.

d. Engineering

N Scale – Nothing to report.

HO – Ken Howard reported the last HO committee meeting was held on January 18<sup>th</sup>. During that meeting a number of projects were set up that are underway now. These include:

- Trackwork being redone under the mountain to give three inches between tracks for easier setup of trains.
- Greg Rhee is working on the structure of Mt. Witwer. Plaster coating will follow soon.
- The problem track on Main 2 near the air conditioner has been redone and the second wye on Main 2 has been installed but has yet to be connected to a control panel.
- We have a plan to rework the trackwork on the Main 4 extension.
- We have two competing proposals for how to exit the yard on Module 4. Once this decision has been made work will progress. This work will provide a way to come out on a number of mains from either end of the yard. This will make the yard very useful for setup.
- The trees for the mountain are still on backorder.
- Chuck is out for a little while recovering from surgery.
- Several people are moving forward working on approved track plan projects.

S gauge – George List reported no change in the layout. He is excited to hear about a new member of the S gauge team.

O gauge – George Sawyer reported that the layout had been left with the power strips off, but with one of the throttles not closed. This could result in a surprise when someone

next turns on the layout. Please remember to close all the throttles, turn off all track switches, and turn off the power strip that powers the layout.

Phil Michaud stated that he may have left the layout in that situation, thinking that was correct.

John Spach suggested that George Sawyer hold a session to teach other members the proper way to operate and power down the O gauge layout.

e. Program

Randy Foulke reported that we have programs scheduled through August of 2026.

f. Social

Randy Foulke reported that we had twenty five people at the Club dinner on January 16<sup>th</sup>.

Randy also reported that the trip to the Timonium show was canceled due to the weather.

7. Old Business

a. Spring Show

Bob Witwer reported that the next meeting of the Show committee will be on February 14<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 at the Clubhouse. If you are on the committee, please plan to attend.

b. Website

Tom Garren reported that updated descriptions have been submitted from the chairman of each layout. These updates have been put in place on the website. The next steps will be to get new pictures of each layout and replace the dated pictures currently on the website. Jeff Cole volunteered to help with the pictures.

c. Insurance

Schaefer O'Neill reported that it is time to renew our insurance for our layouts. Please make Schaefer aware of any major increases in value to each layout so our insurance can be adjusted if needed.

8. New Business

a. Engineers Week

Scott Hall asked if we should include our Club in any activities for the upcoming Engineers Week in North Carolina. Randy Foulke stated that Engineers Week is to promote the profession of registered engineers in the state. This is outside the scope of our Club.

b. Thomasville

George Sawyer reminded everyone that the Thomasville show will be on Saturday, February 7<sup>th</sup>. Ken Howard will pack up merchandise to take to the show beginning on Wednesday. The Club will have five tables at the show.

9. Adjournment

The public portion of the meeting was adjourned at 7:44 pm.