

Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Club Minutes of the Membership Meeting of May 28, 2026

1. Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by President John Spach.
The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Clif Kelly.

2. Roll Call of Members in Attendance

Members attending in person included Wayne Aiken, Ed Bottum, Richard Calfee, Steve Delrosso, Jake Forbes, Randy Foulke, Tom Garren, Mike Hinman, Ken Howard, Clif Kelly, Ted Kunstling, Chuck Larnerd, Don McPherson, Phil Michaud, Len Nieman, Schaefer O'Neill, George Sawyer, Alan Servas, Jim Smith, John Spach, Mike Wagner, and Bob Witwer.

Members attending by Zoom included Peter Donofrio, Cass Gajewski, Gordon Lucas, Chuck Larnerd, Greg Rehe, Ted Salamone, Gene Sing, and Robert Wall.

3. Recognition of Guests in Attendance

We had two guests tonight. Briggs Pratt attended by Zoom. He has applied for Senior membership. We also had Erik Leszuzynski attended in person. He has applied for Associate membership. Both guests have satisfied their two meeting requirement.

4. Minutes of the Last Meeting

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

5. Treasurers Report

Schaefer O'Neill gave the Treasurer's report.

George Sawyer made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report. The motion was seconded by Randy Foulke and passed unanimously.

6. Show and Tell

Bob Witwer noted that we have twelve prints donated by the Locomotive Logos vendor at the show. Please take one if you want one.

7. Election

The election was held for two at large Board seats. Jake Forbes won the three year seat and Greg Rehe won the two year seat. Congratulations to both Jake and Greg.

8. Communications with the Club

Jake Forbes reported getting some communications via Facebook. In each case he forwarded the message to the appropriate person.

Wayne Aiken talked to a Steve Weiss who wants to donate fifteen years of Model Railroader to the Club.

John Spach will be picking up a donation in Fuquay from a Jerry Baker.

9. Committee Reports

a. Membership Committee

Clif Kelly reported that we have two applicants tonight who are eligible for membership. Briggs Pratt has applied for Senior membership. He models in HO scale and likes Norfolk Southern. Erik Leszuzynski has applied for Associate membership. He models Seaboard System in HO.

Bob Witwer made a motion to accept Briggs and Erik as a member of the Club. The motion was seconded by George Sawyer and passed unanimously.

b. Ways and Means
Nothing to report.

c. House

Wayne Aiken reported that he has made great progress processing the new books in the Library.

He also noted that we have an unopened copy of the Southern Railway in Color, Volume 2 from Morning Sun books. This volume is available to any member for \$40.00.

Schaefer O'Neill shared that the renovation of the first rest room will begin on Tuesday and will take three days. While this work is in progress, please use the other rest room.

d. Engineering

N Scale – Phil Michaud stated that the permanent N scale layout is working fine. This includes the new loop on the Main and the elevated track too.

Phil also reported that the NRV N scale T-TRAK layout will join with North Raleigh at an event in Holly Springs on August 22nd.

Randy Foulke also mentioned that our T-TRAK has been asked to join with North Raleigh at the Southbound Train show in Winston-Salem on August 29th-30th. No decision has been made on participating in this event.

HO – Ken Howard reported that the reversing loop is operational. One of the control panels for controlling the reversing loop is operational. A second panel will be built and installed on the other side of the layout.

Chuck Larnerd reported that a diagram of the layout has been posted on the wall. This includes as is, proposed changes, and approved changes. If you have questions or comments, please contact Chuck.

Ken Howard noted that a laminated copy of the operating rules for the HO layout have been posted on a clipboard at the end of the layout.

Alan Servas asked for clarification about running multiple trains on one track on the HO layout.

S Gauge – Nothing to report.

O Gauge – George Sawyer reported there is nothing new to report on the layout. However, there is a container of O27 track on the free table, help yourself.

G Scale – Alan Servas reported that work is underway to restock the equipment on the G scale layout.

- e. Program Committee – John Spach reported that Golden East wants to set up an operating session for us. Watch for more information on this later. Also, the group in Aberdeen want us to come back down to visit them. John asked Randy Foulke to follow up on these events.

Randy Foulke reported that he has programs lined up through September. We are always looking for new volunteers to do programs. If you have something you would like to present, please talk to Randy to get on the schedule.

Apparel – Randy Foulke reported that we now have a broad selection of caps. These include mesh hats at \$20.00 and cloth caps at \$17.00

As for shirts, we have four black XL polo shirts at \$17.00. Three XL shirts are at \$20.00. Future orders will likely go up in price.

Randy reminded everyone that if you buy a hat, please fill out an envelope with full information and place it in the black box in the Library.

Schaefer O'Neill reiterated the importance of providing complete information for any sale made at the Club. Please put your name and what you bought clearly on the outside of the envelope.

We were donated a box of Conrail caps at the show by the Locomotive Logos folks. The caps are located in the free area. Please help yourself.

Randy also stated that our vendor can supply patches of the Club logo to be applied to shirts members may already own.

10. Old Business

a. Spring Show

Bob Witwer reported that the Spring show was better than break even. The vendors were positive. We had an attendance of around 3,400 people.

We will have the last Show Committee meeting for the Spring Show on Saturday, May 20 at 10:00 am.

Don't forget, the Fall show will be in the same building on November 7th and 8th. We will have over 500 tables and seventeen layouts at this show.

George Sawyer expressed thanks to the younger members that helped unload the truck.

b. Building Committee

Chuck Larnerd asked of any progress with the building committee. Ken Howard stated that this is an on-going issue that will begin again in earnest next month. Ken also supplied an example of a building in Cary that he had investigated to give an idea of real estate costs in the area.

c. Plaque

Ken Howard presented John Spach with a plaque thanking him for his five years of service as president of the NRV.

11. New Business

a. Fall Open House

Tom Garren requested we establish a date for the Fall Open House. After some discussion, it was decided to hold the Open House on Saturday, October 17th. Tom will create the flyer for the event and update the website.

Later Ted Kunstling questioned the date as it is the first weekend of the State Fair. After some discussion it was decided to not change the date of the Open House.

b. New Belt Sander

Len Neiman has donated a safer belt sander for the Shop. He needs help installing it. Mike Hinman will help with this project.

c. Mini Sodas and Water

Wayne Aiken noted that any mini sodas and waters in the fridge are free to members. This will free up space in the fridge for regular sized drinks.

12. Program

Len Nieman presented a program on the New Haven's Midway Yard.

13. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:47 pm.