

Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Club HO Committee Meeting of September 13, 2026

1. Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 pm by Chuck Larnerd.

2. Roll Call of Members in Attendance

Members in attendance: Wayne Aiken, Peter Donofrio, Dan Egy, Tom Garren, Mike Hinman, Ken Howard, Chuck Larnerd, Don McPherson, John Mezera, Len Nieman, Greg Rehe, and John Spach.

3. Old Business

Chuck Larnerd reminded everyone that:

- a. Goal is to get the best layout we can produce
- b. Replace the “good enough, it will do” attitude with the “best I can do”

4. New Business

- a. Height of Plexiglas
 - i. Sheet to indicate preferences was posted on the wall in the communication area for two weeks.
 - ii. John Spach stated we just need to “do it” as far as getting the Plexiglas installed.
 - iii. Members present provided their preference on the height that should be used. Chuck will review preferences and choose a consensus for each designated area. Chuck will also initiate the placing of the plexiglass.
- b. Members were encouraged to be more careful with the layout, including scenery
- c. Whether or not to have edge scenery was discussed. It was voted on and the opinion of the group that we should have edge scenery.
 - i. It was also agreed unanimously that no scenery should be higher than the Plexiglas for that area of the layout.
 - ii. Greg Rehe suggested that we proceed on a case-by-case basis regarding the height of edge scenery as we continue to develop the layout. That was adopted.
- d. There was a reminder that all additions to the layout must be planned. This includes scenery, and that in general it should not obstruct the view of the trains.
- e. Also questioned was the status of the backdrops for the far side of the layout. We need to check with Randy Foulke for this update.
- f. Naming of features on the layout.
 - i. After some discussion it was agreed that there would be no fast rule for naming features on the layout.

- ii. The group will vote on any name for a location that is submitted for consideration.
 - iii. Naming requests should be submitted on our normal change request form.
- g. Open House
 - i. Chuck Larnerd proposed a moratorium all except emergency track work. Focus is to be on scenery for Open House. This was agreed to by the group.
 - h. Farm Area: It was agreed to develop a plan for improvement for this area. This area was agreed to be made a more consistent and rural area. John Spach asked for clarification that the Farm Area for improvement would include the area from the back of the existing houses to the edge of the layout. This was approved.
 - i. It was approved to rebuild/repair the South edge scenery per current height standards prior to the Open House.
 - j. A plan will be developed to deal with the land from the church on the hill down to the South wye and the station therein. This plan must include a road network to serve this area of the layout. It was decided that asphalt roads are preferable. Parking lots also need to be planned in this area.
 - k. A plan needs to be developed to refresh the power plant. This should include a plan for how the transmission lines will exit the power plant. It must also be decided whether or not the power lines will have wires strung between the structures.
 - l. A plan needs to be developed for the forestation of the mountain. Len Nieman and Greg Rehe are working on this plan. The plan will clearly show where trees are to be installed and where cutting has occurred on the mountain.
 - m. The Logging Camp should be concentrating on scenery for now. No new buildings will be added at this time. It is acknowledged that some track work needs to be done to prevent cars from derailling, but that will be fixed at a later date.
 - n. Chuck Larnerd reported that Paul Lebiedenski is working on a second control panel for the wyes, reversing loop and associated turnouts.
 - o. John Spach suggested that the old steam engine house area be an open area and should have grass installed for the Open House. This suggestion was approved. It will be open to alternate customization at some later point.
- 5. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 pm.