



The Second Section



Minutes from the July 21, 2011 meeting

President Dennis Mead called the board and general membership meeting to order at 6:32 p.m., in the conference room of the U.S. Bronze Foundry & Machine, Inc., located at 18649 Brake Shoe Road, Meadville, PA.

Attending the meeting were: Dennis Mead, Bernie Hanmore, Carl Timko, Jack Sheets, Larry Johnson, Bill McComas, Tom Collard, John Snyder, Denis Manross, Stan Niwa, Wayne Brown, and guest Bob Motzing.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Ed Cronin submitted his monthly report via email. Secretary Carl Timko read the report, noting current balances, donations received from Terry Martin, C. Sheakley, and Larry Johnson. Ed filed IRS form 990-N for the 2010-2011 fiscal year, which ended on June 30, 2011. Added to the report was the note of the sales of four t-shirts by Larry Johnson, Jack Sheets, and Carl Timko.

Model Railroad Club

Treasurer's Report

Tom Collard read his monthly report for the model railroad club. Included were income, expenses, current balances and donations received in the form of N scale and TT scale track, and used lumber.

Committee Reports

-Historical/Archives-

Dennis Mead showed the attending members a mock-up of the calendar, due to be released in a month or two. It uses plastic comb bindings, and will have the heavier paper than what was shown at the meeting.

Consideration of the weight of the calendar was noted to better afford the mailings. A suggestion was made that the mailing can be done using USPS Priority Mail envelopes, if the customer prepaid. The ELHS is interested in a number of the calendars. Samples will be sent to the ELHS and Kalmbach Publishing for their review. An initial order of 100 count will be made. If more are needed, more can be ordered.

-Property/Equipment-

The status of the 518 project was discussed. The AC&J Railroad drained fuel from the drums and fuel tank of the locomotive. What is left in the tank isn't much, and is not usable.

A work session is likely to be scheduled for next week. The remaining fuel will need to be drained, along with finishing the preparations to have the motor lifted out, the chassis lifted onto a truck, and the wheelsets swapped with the former NickelPlate Road S2, #107. Also, the

traction motors will need to be studied on the #107. The brackets cannot be cut off.

The AC&J RR requested a valuation letter indicating the worth of the 518 based on its weight and current fair-market scrap price.

Tom Collard printed sixty copies of a flyer that were given to the Western New York & Pennsylvania Railroad, to be placed on the special passenger excursion, due August 6. The flyers advertise the need to raise \$3500 to complete the 518 project.

The company in Butler, PA that was to sandblast and paint the locomotive, now cannot handle the 518. They no longer have a crane capable of lifting the chassis. It is likely the locomotive will have to be trucked to Meadville, after which a contractor would be hired to cocoon, sandblast, and paint it.

As of this meeting, there has been no word from Rog's trucking firm. Jack Sheets is waiting for a quote from another trucking firm.

The July 3 tour of the caboose welcomed three visitors.

The Erie Railroad coal tower diamond is now set up for viewing and stabilized.

Jack Sheets reported the lawn at the display site is being kept up, and the reassessment of Pomona

Park by the city government will have no effect on the organization. Jack also reported that if another panel of track is needed for the display, the city would permit it.

A suggestion by a non-member was brought to the board's attention. The brother of Carl Timko wanted to know why the organization doesn't have a sign facing the traffic on the French Creek Parkway and Linden Street. He thought that a sign informing the public of what organization is responsible for the display would help identify the FCVRRHS. If a sign were placed on the fence, permission would be needed from the city of Meadville.

A caboose wash and wax is likely to be scheduled for September.

-Public Relations/Education-

Dennis Mead received an email from an individual that offered their services of having a barbeque to raise funds, free of charge to the organization. However, it is probable that the cost of buying the meat and side dishes would fall to the organization. It was questioned whether the barbeque would bring in enough paying customers to offset the cost and have enough of a profit to warrant having the barbeque. It was

noted that parking would be an issue, if the event were to be held at the display site. Dennis said he would request more information from the individual.

Bill McComas is planning to use photos of the work crews that helped prepare the 518 for its eventual shipping to Meadville. A story of a train wreck at Stony Point may grace a future issue of "The Valley Express".

The caboose will be open August 7 from 7:30 a.m. to at least 11:30 a.m. in hopes to attract some of the railfans that will chase the rare mileage passenger excursion that will roll down the Oil City branch. The train will arrive late August 6.

Volunteers are needed. *(Editor's note: Jack Sheets plans to open the caboose on August 6 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., in hopes of attracting visitors from Meadville's Thunder in the City motorcycle event).*

-Special Events/Programs-

The 2011 ELHS convention in Scranton, PA will be September 30 through October 2. Anyone interested in attending, please contact Carl Timko for a copy of the form to send in.

-Model Railroad-

Tom Collard noted the progress of the N scale

layout. He says the layout will feature three different levels. The construction of the base is to be similar to one built by the staff at Model Railroader Magazine.

Scott Wilson's new N scale newsletter drew a commendation from President Dennis Mead. Scott's newsletter this month featured progress on his home layout, new products for N scalers, and an N scale weekend show at Bedford, PA on August 27 and 28. He has a flyer for the show. If members haven't received one via email yet, please contact Scott or Carl Timko.

-Next Meeting-

The next meeting will be Thursday, August 18, 2011, at 6:30 p.m., in the conference room of the U.S. Bronze Foundry & Machine, Inc., located at 18649 Brake Shoe Road, Meadville, PA



