

The Second Section

Minutes from the February 17, 2011 meeting

President Dennis Mead called the board and general membership meeting to order at 6:25 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, Ed Cronin, Carl Timko, Bill McComas, Larry Johnson, Tom Collard, Jack Sheets, John Snyder, Denis Manross, Scott Wilson, Wayne Brown, Butch Snyder, and guest Bob Lane. Mr. Lane was an engineer on the Allegheny Railroad. Mr. Lane brought photographs of a massive scale curved wooden trestle.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Ed Cronin disclosed the balances and expenditures since the last meeting. Caboose and liability insurance will be due on April 1, 2011. Ed expects to make one payment during each month of April, May, and June to avoid service charges. Ed also released the charge for liability insurance for the model railroad club, which is housed on the second floor of the @ the Bank shopping center in Meadville. The lease for the space was received from Mr. Ed Fine.

Committee Reports *-Historical/Archives-*

The calendar project is not a priority at this time, but the board is looking at the Crawford County Historical Society's new trolley calendar. Fine Print published this calendar and may be another option as a publisher for the organization's 2012 calendar.

-Public Relations/Education-

The biannual model railroad show at the Rainbow Gardens, at Waldameer Park in Erie, PA will be Sunday, March 6, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.. A fourteen foot table has been reserved, and will be next to the Lake Shore Railway Historical Society's tables under the windows. Anyone wishing to stop by and relieve the attendants are encouraged to do so. We will have the usual t-shirts and magazines for sale, as well as membership applications, and photos that will be on display. It is planned to have a frame built to hang several photos on for the public to view. Ed Cronin also plans to bring the banner that was made and used at the Techfest last May.

Bill McComas announced the files for the newsletter will be delivered to the publisher on Friday, February 18. He expects the *Valley Express* will be released in about a week.

Carl Timko announced that the French Creek

Valley Railroad Historical Society's website has been linked to www.kathymillatt.co.uk, a website from the United Kingdom of a potential master model railroader, Kathy Millatt. She and her crew have built a fantastic model railroad. Her website has several pages that will take the visitor through the different stages of the building of her layout.

Members are encouraged to visit her website through ours (www.fcvrrhs.org).

Dennis Mead reported on his experience at the Railroad Prototype Modeler's meet at West Springfield, Massachusetts. He made several contacts and noticed how many laser-cut structures were on display. One of the contacts he made was Richard Steinbrenner, head of the ALCO Historical & Technical Society.

The model railroad show at the Lakeland Community College in Kirtland, Ohio is scheduled for March 19 and March 20.

-Property/Equipment-

The board discussed the status of former Erie Lackawanna S2 #518. It is still sitting in Jefferson, Ohio and is unprotected against the weather. Concerns are for the cab interior, even though most components have already been removed.

The board looked at other possibilities to replace the

#518, including Wes Weiss's M636 locomotives. They were ruled out because of their weight.

The organization is going to try again in the spring to get all able bodies together to prep the #518 for moving. It is hoped the work can get done after the first of April. Members will be notified, so plan to help out if you are able.

The board discussed of how to remove parts, including the two remaining hood sections and the cab. It is hoped when they are removed, the AC&J would remove the prime mover and generator, as well as replace the trucks. Delta was mentioned as an option to pull the motor and generator, if need be.

One of the other projects needing done before the #518 is set up at Meadville, is to raise and level the display track under where the caboose currently sits.

-Museum-

Ed Cronin stated that the museum board has selected KP Consulting as financial consultant for the fundraising project. He will be meeting with Karen Petrucelli of KP Consulting on Friday, February 18. Ms. Petrucelli is to produce a list of tools and ideas to use when the fundraising begins.

-Model Railroad-

The FCVRRHS now has a new model railroad club. The club has released its

first newsletter, *FCV Main Line News*. All members that have email capability have been sent a copy.

Those that do not have email, and wants a copy, contact either Tom Collard or Carl Timko. A stamped envelope would be very appreciative.

Currently, the model railroad club has four paid members. For more information, including cost of joining, please contact Tom Collard at tcollard@ymail.com, or call him at 814-853-2942.

Dennis Mead donated telephone wire to be used for wiring lights and low voltage accessories for a model railroad layout.

One possible model railroad tour might include the layout of Al Notarione. Al had conducted a weathering clinic in 2010.

-Membership-

A possible group tour site may be the Carnegie Science Center in Pittsburgh. Their website has some nice photos of their work. No tours have been set as yet. If any tours are decided upon, the membership will be notified.

The French Creek Valley Railroad Historical Society sends its condolences to the family of fellow members David Manning and Christopher Manning. Marcus Manning, David's son, and Christopher's dad passed away in an auto accident. Christopher's mom is still in the hospital.

Our thoughts and prayers are with her and the family.

-Next Meeting-

The next board and general membership meeting is scheduled for Thursday March 17, 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.

