

The Second Section

Minutes from the September 15, 2011 meeting

President Dennis Mead called the board and general membership meeting to order at 6:29 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, Ed Cronin, Carl Timko, Larry Johnson, Tom Collard, Jack Sheets, Bill McComas, John Snyder, Denis Manross, Hunt Christie, Stan Niwa, and guests Bob Motzing and Joe Schveder.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Ed Cronin gave his report on the financial status of the organization, noting current balances, income, expenses, and the balance for the 518 Fund. Dues, donations, and sales of calendars made up the income. Expenses included Penelec (electricity for the caboose), Vickey Graphics (calendars), Model Railroad Club rent, and the fee for the Pennsylvania Bureau of Charitable Organizations.

Model Railroad Club

Treasurer's Report

Model Railroad Committee chairman Tom Collard submitted the financial report for the model railroad club, noting current balances, recent income from sales and one new member. He also donated materials for one of the layouts.

Scott Wilson will be taking the Kusan train set to a train show in Butler on September 24 to sell. Track and a transformer were recently found and will be included in the set.

Committee Reports

-Special

Events/Programs-

Erie Lackawanna Historical Society archivist Joe Schveder discussed plans for the upcoming ELHS spring convention, with the attending members. He noted that hotels will be noted for the few guests who plan to stay overnight. Most of those that will attend the convention are only a few hours of driving time away.

The ELHS business meeting, slide show, and store require a nice sized room, in which the ELHS will need at least three eight foot tables, plus table for the FCVRRHS sales. Seating for 30 to 50 people will be needed at this event. The three more popular sites are West Mead #2 fire hall, Vernon Central fire hall, and The Country Club on Route 86.

The ELHS expects to charge around \$30 per person. Mr. Schveder said the FCVRRHS could tack on an additional charge to cover expenses.

The ELHS will be looking for a speaker for the event. A decision of which site will host the convention is

needed by the end of 2011.

A tentative date of May 5, 2012 was set for the event.

Mr. Schveder gave the general itinerary of the convention, with all times subject to change. The business meeting is expected to start at 3:00 p.m., with dinner served at 6:30 p.m., followed by the guest speaker.

Dennis Mead said he will contact Carl Belke of the Western New York & Pennsylvania Railroad to see if it is at all possible to have a train ride for the event. If a train ride does materialize, Mr. Schveder suggested ELHS and FCVRRHS member have priority to ride over non-members. He noted that thirty people on a train ride is the average break-even point for train ride costs. He also noted that the caboos must be open for tours.

-Property/Equipment-

The subject of moving the 518 was the next topic for discussion. The current available haulers are Al Corron and Dailey's. Lloyd's and ITC were the favored crane contractors.

Expenses for the project, only including the hauling of the chassis, and the hauling of the trucks, and a crane at Jefferson and in Meadville would exceed the 518 fund. The balance may be made up from the FCVRRHS treasury. Other expenses of sandblasting and painting,

pressure washing, striping and lettering, body repair, glass replacement, and assorted hardware would be an additional \$3000 that would have to be raised.

Ed Cronin scheduled a work session for Friday, September 16, at Jefferson, Ohio, to remove handrails and disconnect cables from the trucks on the AC&J #107.

The board noted a need for a contract with Mr. Corron for his trucking services to appear on the prescribed date. If a trucker isn't found, then the project must wait until 2012 to be completed.

It was noted that the crane from Butler would take up to two hours on the road to arrive at Jefferson, Ohio.

A motion was made by Tom Collard to approve authorization to proceed with the moving of the #518. Jack Sheets seconded the motion. The motion carried with ten votes in favor, with one abstention.

The caboose wash and wax, originally scheduled for Saturday, September 17, was postponed until Saturday, September 24.

-Historical/Archives-

A review of the calendar sales showed 39 percent were sold as of September 15. Calendars are now available at the Market House and Tom's Train Terminal. Two calendars were given as

complimentary gifts. Plans are to mail one each to Kalmbach Publications and Carstens Publications, for their review. The board decided 50 more should be ordered.

-Public

Relations/Education-

Bill McComas, editor of the newsletter, *The Valley Express*, requested submissions for the next issue. He suggested an ad be placed in the newsletter to help sell the calendars.

The board rejected a plan to set up Paypal for the website sales. It was decided that payment by check and money order only will be implemented.

The website can be viewed at www.fcvrrhs.org.

The FCVRRHS will have a table at the Rainbow Gardens in Erie, PA, on Sunday, November 6.

John Snyder donated a large stuffed Mickey Mouse dressed in a Santa Clause outfit, for the purpose of raffling it off during the Christmas layout display. The funds generated will be for the benefit of the FCVRRHS. The train set raffle will also be held, which will benefit the Toys for Tots campaign as it has in previous years.

John Snyder and his wife Linda are donating ornaments to be used on the Christmas tree wherever the Christmas layout will be displayed.

-Model Railroad-

Three HO layout tables have been built by John Snyder and Scott Wilson. John would like one to three more people to help build the remaining modules. Al Reibel and Tom Collard will build a TT scale layout. The N scale layout that was displayed in the window of the @ the Bank shopping complex, last Christmas, is undergoing a complete rebuilding by Scott Wilson and Tom Collard. Tom plans to build a Lionel layout as well.

John Snyder is donating three chairs for the use of the attendants of the Christmas layout. He and his wife Linda are making scale size houses also.

Jack Sheets noted the Western Reserve Model Railroad Club closed its doors at the old Caterpillar plant in Mentor, Ohio. The layouts have been removed. Plans are to reopen the museum at another location within two months.

-Membership-

The FCVRRHS welcomes three new members. Jason Ferguson and Michael Chmura were recruited by Tom Collard. Jim Pettingill from the Ridgway Railway Museum in Colorado also signed up.

-Next Meeting-

The next meeting will be on Thursday, October 20, 2011, at 6:30 p.m., in the conference room of the U.S. Bronze Foundry & Machine, Inc., 18649 Brake Shoe Road, Meadville, PA.

