



The Second Section



Minutes from the December 17, 2015 meeting

President Bernie Hanmore called the membership meeting to order at 7:27 p.m. in the banquet room of Hoss's Seafood and Steak House located at 18817 Smock Highway, Meadville, PA. Hoss's was chosen to be the venue for the membership meeting and Christmas party this year, as per an approved motion at last month's membership meeting.

The members and spouses that enjoyed the gathering included Bernie and Laurie Hanmore, Denny and Donna Mead, Ed and Suann Cronin, Carl and Vanessa Timko, Jack and Linda Sheets, Bill McComas, Tom Stewart, John and Lynda Snyder, and Terry and Maryann Martin.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Ed Cronin's monthly financial report included current balances, income from merchandise sales and expenses of publicity photographs concerning the boxcar.

Committee Reports Historical / Archives

The French Creek Valley Railroad Historical Society recently received two copies of the Erie Lackawanna Meadville signal shop rosters of 1975. They were donated by Susan Yosten.

Property / Equipment

Planning to restore one side of Bessemer and Lake Erie boxcar #80412 continues. David Miller volunteered to pay for the lumber to replace deteriorated portions of siding. Frontier Lumber found some #1 grade yellow pine boards. The boards are 2" x 12" and will be ripped and planed to 1" x 6" x 10' boards, which will then be sent to a local company that will mill the boards for tongue and groove joinery. Seventy boards will be needed to complete the project. A motion was made by Ed Cronin to order 80 boards from Frontier Lumber at their offer of \$1.00 per foot. The motion was seconded by John Snyder and approved unanimously. Terry Martin suggested staining the boards instead of painting them. It was also mentioned that Ray Grabowski of the Lake Shore Railway Historical Society should be informed of the progress made with the boxcar.

Dennis Mead contacted Furlan Patrick, the executive director of G.R.O.W., the organization from Wellsboro, PA that owns the DL& W snowplow. The board of G.R.O.W. is to meet next week to discuss the possibility of donating the Russell snowplow to the FCVRRHS. The board hopes to

enlist the help of Larry DeYoung to coordinate the move of the snowplow, should it be acquired. It was noted that insurance for the move should be obtained.

Negotiations are still proceeding to acquire the Smock Property, led by Attorney John Nagurney. The property may be the site to display the tool car and the snowplow, if it is acquired.

Public Relations / Education

The train layout had only three more days left to be on display at the Downtown Mall in Meadville. Volunteers were set for Friday, Saturday, and Wednesday. The layout was to be disconnected to be ready to haul on Monday, December 28. (*editor's note: The disassembly instead occurred on Monday. The layout is now back in storage at the U.S. Bronze*).

The winning ticket for the train set was drawn on Saturday, December 19. The winner was Scott Curtis, who works in an office in the mall. At the time of the meeting, only \$91 had been collected for the drawing. A motion to have a check, of a slightly higher amount, ready to be presented to Carrie Nageotte, the Meadville area Toys for Tots representative, was made, seconded and approved. The 50/50 raffle was postponed until

Wednesday, December 23 at 2:00 p.m. The winner of that drawing was Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Johnson.

A calendar was given as a token of appreciation to Shirley Barnes, who operated the Local Artisans shop. The FCVRRHS used a portion of the shop to display and operate the HO layout.

Dennis Mead noted that the French Creek Valley Railroad Historical Society received positive press in the ELHS magazine, "*The Diamond*". The ELHS thought very highly of the Riverside Inn of Cambridge Springs. The ELHS held their annual convention at the Riverside Inn in 2015.

Budget / Finance

Carl Timko received quotes from Laurie's Embroidery of Meadville for sweatshirts with the diamond logo that is on the new polo shirts. The quotes were for various sizes of crew neck sweatshirts and hooded sweatshirts. It was also suggested to look into hats with the diamond logo.

It was suggested to hold off until February to order more shirts, as the inventory is getting low.

Special Events / Programs

One train show that many members attend is the Youngstown Model Railroad Association's show at McMenamy's Banquet Hall, 325 Warren-Youngstown Road (Route 422), Niles, Ohio. It

will be held on January 10, 2016. Admission is \$5.00.

Membership

The FCVRRHS welcomes two new members, Steven Grzegorzewski of Meadville and David P. Miller. Mr. Miller is an honorary lifetime member.

Next Meeting

The next FCVRRHS membership meeting will be held on Thursday, January 21, 2016, 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.

We hope everyone will have a truly wonderful new year! See you at the meeting.

