

The Second Section

Minutes from the April 18, 2013 meeting

President Bernie Hanmore called the membership meeting to order 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

Attending the meeting were Bernie Hanmore, Dennis Mead, Ed Cronin, Carl Timko, Bill McComas, Jack Sheets, Larry Johnson, Tom Collard, John Snyder, Tom Stewart, Wayne Brown, Stan Niwa, and Al Reibel.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Ed Cronin gave his report on the financial status of the organization. Income for the month was from the sale of calendars, while the expense of the month was payment of the insurance premium for liability and the caboos.

Model Railroad Club Treasurer's Report

There was no treasurer's report due this month, however, Tom Collard submitted a hard copy of the report for the month of March. Income was from dues, expense were for materials and funds transfer.

Committee Reports

-Museum-

Board members of the Heritage Center are planning to travel to Lancaster, PA, to meet with Ann Brown during the first week of May. The purpose

for the trip is to ask when the best time to initiate the capital campaign and to ask for advice on who the better professional consultants would be.

Ed passed out Heritage Center membership forms to the attending membership of the FCVRRHS. He proposed a motion to temporarily fund the membership fee until the member is able to pay. By doing this, the FCVRRHS board will be 100 percent onboard with the Heritage Center. The next target for 100 percent membership is the NTMA.

There was more discussions on procuring rail and ties for the museum siding. It was decided Wayne Brown and Hunt Christie will help to select good ties for the siding project. When laying the ties with twenty one inch centers, at total of 420 ties will be needed. Hunt Christie is to line up a log truck to load, haul, and unload the ties at the site. Wayne Brown volunteered to operate the truck/cherry picker if no one was available to do so. Ed Cronin plans to ask Mark Turner of the Economic Progress Alliance, where 800 linear feet of rail can be found.

The Cambridge Springs trolley station was decided to the Crawford County Historical Society, but the CCHS isn't interested in keeping it. Contact with an

attorney will be made to see if the deed can be transferred from one non-profit agency to another.

Mark Turner was asked if the property the museum is planned to be built upon could be purchased for a fair sum, and if the Economic Progress Alliance could finance it. Mr. Turner is reported to have said both were possible. Acquiring the property this way would give the Heritage Center a mortgage, which would enable other financial opportunities.

The annual meeting for the Heritage Center is Monday June 10 at 7 p.m., in the Douglass Center on Bessemer St., Meadville, PA. The guest speaker for the event will be Nate Clark, who will talk about the Shenango River railroad truss bridge, that was recently removed and replaced with a girder bridge. The FCVRRHS is responsible for the refreshments. All members of the FCVRRHS are invited to attend the event.

-Property/Equipment-

A work session is scheduled for Thursday, May 9 at 3:00 p.m. at the display site, to start reassembling the parts onto the 518.

Jack Sheets called the George Silcott Co. about availability of window tracks for the 518. The Silcott Co. responded by

saying it would be better if the window tracks were fabricated, as these parts usually are in less than acceptable condition when the locomotives arrive. The Silcott Co. said doors are available for the #3639, should it be acquired.

Tom Collard reports that Boyco Graphics would like to bid on making the lettering for the 518.

The ladder for the signal mast was sandblasted and powder coated, and now is in possession of the organization. A thank you letter to Jan Grayson of Perfect Coat will be sent soon.

The baggage car was the next topic for discussion. Jack Sheets reported after meeting with city officials, that there is no problem with putting the baggage car on a piece of land at or near the display site. The problem would be if plumbing or access for the handicapped is required. The city would need to be contacted for permits should either is needed.

Dennis Mead suggested that a suitable glass display case be acquired and placed in the caboose for the purpose of displaying artifacts.

An artifact that was donated by Jim Nelson, is an E.C. Atkins & Co. crosscut saw tool/jointer file holder/ rake setter. The tool had patent dates from May 1874, June 1875, August 1881, and January 1888.

-Public Relations/Education-

A letter of thanks and a certificate was received from Toys for Tots for contributing to their campaign during the Christmas season. It is hoped that the FCVRRHS can find a suitable space to display the model railroad layout this year so the raffle for a train set can be resumed to help Toys for Tots.

The organization's website, www.fcvrrhs.org, had 393 hits this past month. The most visits were on April 9. The public is becoming more aware of our website.

The Spring 2013 issue of "The Valley Express" will be published after all submissions have been received. A suggestion for future issues is an article every issue on model railroad layouts of each member.

-Historical/Archives-

The 2013 Eric Railroad historical calendar has nearly sold out. Ten more calendars were sold. Fifteen calendars are all that remain in stock. There may be a few left at various vendors in town.

-Budget/Financing-

Some of the fundraising ideas discussed included selling the crossbucks that are in the organization's possession, hosting model railroad clinics. Bernie

Hanmore said he will look into having a clinic held at his lodge. A suggestion to acquire additional funds is to write letters to the organizations that participate in games of chance. These organizations are not permitted to keep all the funds received from these kinds of games, and must distribute them to other non-profit agencies.

-Special Events/Programs-

There are many events coming up this year that may be of interest. National Train Day will be celebrated May 11 at the Jamestown, N.Y. station from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. with various events taking place.

The Orrville Railroad Historical Society will have an excursion over the Medina Loop on April 27, starting at 9 a.m. and concluding at 5:30 p.m. The trip will cover 150 miles of the Wheeling and Lake Erie.

The Perry St. Station in Titusville will house the Titusville One-Day Museum on June 8, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Nickel Plate Road Berkshire #765 will haul an excursion on May 12, from Rocky River to Bellevue, OH. The #765 will then head to Pennsylvania to run excursions over the famed Horseshoe Curve near Altoona over the Memorial Day weekend.

The Lake Shore Railway

Historical Society will present its Steam Weekend on August 17th and 18th, at the North East, PA museum, featuring American Viscose 0-4-0T #6. This locomotive has run excursion over the OC&T and the AC&J recently.

-Model Railroad-

It is planned to place the model railroad tour announcements on the website soon.

The attending members discussed Bernie Hanmore's layout and having tours of various layouts

A demonstration regarding model railroading is planned to be scheduled at the Masonic Lodge on Route 27 on the first Thursday in September.

Model railroad work sessions on club layouts are on Wednesday afternoons for the HO layout and Sunday evenings, at 6 p.m., for the N scale layout.

-Membership-

The annual meeting for the FCVRRHS should be in June. The following board members and officers are up for reelection: Bernie Hanmore - President (Bernie completed Dennis Mead's presidency term this year); Tom Collard - board of directors; Larry Johnson - board of directors; John Snyder - board of directors; and Carl Timko - Secretary.

The attending members entertained the possibility of having a summer family

picnic at the display site.

Next Meeting

The next membership meeting of the French Creek Valley Railroad Historical Society will be Thursday, May 16, 2013, 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.

