



The Second Section



Minutes from the February 21, 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, Carl Timko, Bill McComas, Larry Johnson, Jack Sheets, Tom Collard, John Snyder, Tom Stewart, Carl Ferguson, Stan Niwa, and Wayne Brown.

Treasurer's Report

Secretary Carl Timko read the treasurer's report in the absence of Ed Cronin. Noted were current balances and income from merchandise sales, dues and a gift from member Alberta Cole. The lone expense was rent for the model railroad club.

Committee Reports

-Museum-

The Heritage Center board asked the FCVRRHS to assemble crews to remove ties and haul them to a designated storage area.

It was noted that as of this date, the switch on Spring St. has been removed, presumably by the contractors, the Knuth Bros.

Jack Sheets had made several attempts to contact Bob Knuth to negotiate a price for the switch, but contact was never made.

The Heritage Center board has asked the FCVRRHS to provide refreshments for the Heritage Center's annual meeting on June 10, at 7 p.m., in the large conference room of the Douglass Center, Bessemer St., Meadville, PA. Ed Cronin volunteered to cover the costs of refreshments. All members are free to attend.

The board and attending members discussed the resolution from the Heritage Center. The resolution states that the FCVRRHS is a partner in the proposed Heritage Center and allows the use of the FCVRRHS's name and identity for marketing and fundraising purposes. Line three states the FCVRRHS will donate portions of its collections once the site has been purchased and the museum built. A motion was made by John Snyder to approve the resolution. Jack Sheets seconded the motion. The motion carried. The resolution was signed and dated by President Bernie Hanmore and Secretary Carl Timko.

A short discussion concerning the trolley station in Cambridge Springs followed. The board was informed the status of the station may progress by the next Heritage Center board meeting.

-Property/Equipment-

The membership is looking forward to spring to start

installing the parts and pieces back onto the 518.

Terry Martin has sandblasted and painted all the nuts and bolts and are ready to go. Work on the 518 is expected to be completed by the end of summer. The christening of the 518 may be planned after final assembly.

The signal and mast is due to have work started on them soon. The number plate for the signal was not ready to paint as was reported in the last issue.

A short discussion on the use and placement of the baggage car ensued. The car was recently donated by the WNYF Railroad.

-Historical/Archives-

Twenty-three calendars are left in stock, plus the few that remain with consignors, which will be checked.

Dennis Mead noted there are enough photos from the Stuart Ladner collection to make a 2014 calendar, after which photos will be from a different source.

-Public

Relations/Education-

The *Valley Express* newsletter is being prepared for the spring issue.

Members are asked to submit articles and information to the editor, Bill McComas.

Tom Collard's recent class, the Introduction to Model Railroading had eleven or twelve attendees, mostly

adults.

-Budget/Finance-

The membership is asked to come up with ideas to raise funds to keep the organization operating. Some ideas include the model railroad tour, and a movie or slide show night. A viable place to have the movie or slide show night is still needed. It was noted St. Brigid's social hall is priced out of our budget. A suggestion of previewing the movies or slide shows at the membership meeting was favored by the board. Tom Collard mentioned Todd Hunter of the Nittany and Bald Eagle Railroad may be able to help.

-Model Railroad-

The French Creek Valley Model Railroad Club is looking for new members. Currently there are only four paid members. Memberships are available at a cost of \$30 per year. The advantage of the membership is free admission to any model railroading clinics hosted by the model railroad club.

The layouts being built by the model railroad club have progressed considerably. The HO layout has track laid for the staging yard, while the bench work is being completed. The HO crew meets on Wednesdays at 3 p.m. in the club room. The N scale layout meets on Sundays at 6 p.m. The TT scale layout is coming along with track being laid. A

photo of the TT layout is planned to be published in the *Valley Express* newsletter.

Three train shows are coming up within the next month. On Sunday, March 3, Rainbow Gardens in Waldameer Park, Erie, PA, will have the biannual train show. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The French Creek Valley Railroad Historical Society will have a table at the show, so come on up and see us. The organization will have its 2013 calendar for sale, along with the t-shirts and magazines. We will also have membership applications available.

Railfest 2013 will be Saturday, March 16 and Sunday, March 17 at the Lakeland Community College in Kirtland, OH. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Several members are planning to attend, and there may be carpools.

A Railroad Prototype Modelers meet will be held at the Ramada Inn off Route 30 in Greensburg, PA on Friday, March 22 and Saturday, March 23. A registration fee of \$35 is required if you are displaying anything. Vendors will be present. They plan to have a model railroad operating session at 6 p.m. on Thursday, March 21. This may be a tour of area layouts. Sunday, March 24 will have a tour of area layouts.

-Membership-

Dr. Tom Barratt donated two books and a package of railroad date nails to the FCVRRHS. The books, "*Cinders and Smoke*", and "*Erie Lackawanna Passenger Car Cards, Vol. 13*" will make great additions to the library. Thank you, very much, Tom!

A motion was made by Tom Collard to raise the fee for junior members from \$1 to \$5. The motion was seconded by John Snyder, which passed by an unanimous vote of the attending members. The fee was raised as the \$1 fee didn't cover the cost of mailing the newsletters to the junior members. The effective date should be upon expiration of current memberships, which is June 30. However, new junior memberships will be \$5 immediately.

Next Meeting

The next membership meeting will be Thursday, March 21, 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.

