

The Second Section

Minutes from the July 19, 2012 meeting

President Bernie Hanmore called the board and general membership meeting to order at 6:26 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, Larry Johnson, Jack Sheets, Tom Collard, John Snyder, Bill McComas, Denis Manross, Stan Niwa, Carl Ferguson, Wayne Brown and his grandson.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Ed Cronin gave the monthly financial report to the attending members, noting current balances and bills due or will be due. Income was from sales of t-shirts, dues and donations.

Model Railroad Club Treasurer's Report

Tom Collard gave his report of the finances of the model railroad club, noting opening and current balances. Income was from sales of used merchandise, and expenses were from rent and supplies.

Committee Reports

-Museum-

The fundraising committee of the museum board plans to apply for a grant to help acquire the former Erie Lackawanna SDP45 #3639, as the first piece of rolling

stock for display at the museum. Currently, no money is available to start building the museum, so the focus will be to start acquiring rolling stock and artifacts for the museum. If and when the locomotive is acquired, a place to have it painted needs to be confirmed, then the unit will have to be moved and stored in Meadville. The best hope is that it would be stored near the site of the museum.

-Property/Equipment-

Lloyd's Rental's crane service has four dates available for lifting, loading and unloading the #518. They are August 8 & 9, August 13 & 14, August 22 & 23, and August 29 & 30. The hope is Silk Road Transportation will agree to one of these dates so the long-awaited move of the S2 will happen. It has been six years in the making.

The AC&J Railroad already knows of these dates. There was a notion that the AC&J could lift certain components off of the #518 with a large forklift so the locomotive could be ready to lift onto a transporter.

The board needs to contact the WNYP Railroad's Carl Belke for permission to use a section of their property, between the former engine house and the display site, to park the trucks and crane overnight. The Meadville City Police

also need to be contacted to help with the traffic when the trucks and cranes come through town.

The hood, doors, hatches, and radiators need to be hauled down to the site, to be ready to lift them back onto the shell of the #518.

The caboose received new paint on the handrails thanks to John Snyder.

The organization was informed that we must take delivery of the tool car soon. The only problem is where to store it. The WNYP wants it off their property as soon as possible. A hole needs repaired in the former baggage car' roof.

The signal mast will need its paint scraped off and new paint applied. Any member willing to spend an hour or more is welcome to do so. Measurements were taken of the base of the mast for fitting to a new concrete base.

-Historical/Archives-

Dennis Mead and Scott Ladner met to discuss the selections of photographs for the new calendar. The photographs are from Scott's father, Stuart. Dennis and Scott plan to meet the following week with publisher Mike Vickey.

The organization already has three orders for the new calendar, including one that has already been paid for. Dennis also proposed using some of the Ladner photos to compile a book to sell.

-Public

Relations/Education-

The attendance of the latest caboose tour were three sets of visitors, including two from out of town, two that had worked on the Erie Lackawanna, and one local person. Four t-shirts were sold, along with the aforementioned pre-paid sale of the 2013 calendar.

No mention of the next caboose tour was made. Labor Day is the next holiday, so it may not be until then, or after the #518 arrives.

-Special

Events/Programs-

Although the OC&T Steam Days are not an event of the French Creek Valley Railroad Historical Society, a report of the festivities bear some mentioning. The event occurred over the weekend of July 14 and 15, using the Flagg Coal Co. 0-4-0T #75 and the American Viscose Co. 0-4-0T #6 over the mainline and the Fieldmore Line. The Fieldmore Line that remains runs from the lumber company at Route 27 in Titusville to past the old U.S. Cyclops complex in East Titusville.

Passenger traffic of any kind has not traveled over the Fieldmore Line since at least 1953.

The Ashtabula Carson & Jefferson Railroad will have the American Viscose #6 pull excursions over its line

on August 25 & 26.

-Model Railroad-

Scott Wilson donated an N scale Vermont Railway GP40 to sell to raise money for the model railroad club. The unit has been refurbished and is ready to run. The price as a direct current model is \$60. If the new owner wishes DCC to be installed, the price will be \$95. The locomotive can be seen at Tom's Train Terminal on Park Avenue, in Meadville. All profits will go to the model railroad club.

All three model railroad are starting to progress nicely. The TT scale layout has the styrofoam risers and inclines installed and is ready for the cork roadbed. The HO layout benchwork is well underway, while the N scale layout is having its benchwork installed above the HO layout, then will continue with the other side.

The large HO layout that is displayed during the Christmas season is in need of some work before November.

Even though the model railroad tours during the ELHS Spring meeting didn't go as well as planned, there is interest in having a model railroad tour using monthly tours of each layout. One layout would be selected to tour each month. A list of all layouts that would be available to tour is needed. If any member is interested, please contact a member of the board.

-Membership-

The annual business meeting and dinner at the Country Club had a nice turnout. There was a proposal to have the next annual business meeting and dinner as a picnic at the caboose. There also was another proposal to have the picnic separate from the business meeting and dinner and still keep the Country Club for the meeting and dinner. Discussions on these topics will ensue in future meetings.

Former president, and now current vice-president, Dennis Mead, expressed his appreciation and gratitude for the awards and gifts bestowed upon by the membership. He also thanked all that have prayed for him and gave him encouragement during his cancer treatments.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be August 16, 2012 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.

