



The Second Section

Minutes from the June 18, 2015 meeting



President Bernie Hanmore called the membership meeting to order at 6:30 p.m., in the cafeteria of the U.S. Bronze Foundry & Machine, Inc., located at 18649 Brake Shoe Road, Meadville, PA. The meeting was moved from Pomona Park three days before due to the threat of severe weather that had been forecasted.

Those that gathered for the meeting and the following picnic were Bernie Hanmore, Dennis and Donna Mead, and Phoebe, Ed and Suann Cronin, Carl and Vanessa Timko, John and Lynda Snyder, Tom Collard, Al Reibel, Jim and Barbara Saulsbery, and Terry and Maryann Martin.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Ed Cronin's financial report consisted of current balances, expenditures, and the year end financial status, which is down several hundred dollars from the previous fiscal year.

Committee Reports Museum

The annual meeting for the Heritage Center is Monday, August 10, 2015, at 6:00 p.m., at the Cambridge Springs trolley station. The guest speaker will be railroad and

trolley book author Ken Springirth.

Historical/Archives

Mike Vickey, the publisher of the planned pictorial book, has not set up to publish yet, as of the date of this meeting.

Scott Ladner, whose father is the photographer of most of the photographs in the book, has expressed his pleasure that a book will be made from the photos of the first three calendars. He is willing to lend the organization his photos to be published.

Property/Equipment

A Western New York and Pennsylvania Railroad track crew completed the installation of the track panel in front of the 518 on June 9. The FCVRRHS is very much appreciative to the WNYP for providing their time, labor, and materials to complete this project. The next day, ballast was purchased from Kebert's and delivered. A crew of FCVRRHS members got together to spread the ballast where it was needed. The crew consisted of Tom Collard, Terry Martin, Bill McComas, John Snyder, and Tom Stewart.

The 518 is now ready to be moved, pressure washed, and lettered. It was expressed during the meeting, that a day

needs to be scheduled to do this work. Jack Sheets is having trouble finding a source of water to do the pressure washing.

It was noted that come-alongs may help move the 518 forward. It was also noted that the brake shoes on the locomotive need to be freed.

A conversation between the secretary and Rick Rowlands of the Youngstown Steel Heritage Museum involved talking about the 518 after Mr. Rowlands had visited the equipment at Pomona Park recently. Mr. Rowland's museum has two ALCO S2s formerly of the McDonald Works in McDonald, Ohio. They were originally U.S. Steel - Ohio Works motive power, which was at the same facility. One S2, the #777, is being restored to operate. The other, #70, is being used for parts. After restoration of the #777 is complete, the S2 is planned to be moved to the Lake Shore Railway Historical Museum for at least a temporary stay. Mr. Rowlands stated that if possible, he may make cab parts available to the FCVRRHS to help restore the interior of the 518. The entire cab interior was kept by the AC&J Railroad for their own locomotive.

The Bessemer and Lake Erie

Railroad boxcar has been moved by the LSRHS to a track in front of the freight station in North East. The hauler, Industrial Truck and Crane has notified the organization that they require two weeks notice before the move.

There were more discussions on acquiring the Charles Smock property across from the display area. The property is 65 feet long, and 60 feet wide, with a 29 foot by 18 foot "L" at one end. It is very likely that a property survey will be needed to establish the boundaries. Tom Collard asked to be approved to work with Attorney John Nagurney in the effort to acquire the property. Tom was granted his request with an unanimous approval. Tom also noted that insurance will be required.

Public Relations/Education

The French Creek Valley Railroad Historical Society will resume membership with the Crawford County Convention and Visitors Bureau. The thought is when an event can be scheduled, it would make for good publicity to be placed in their guide book.

Budget/Finance

Carl Timko brought in samples of the polo shirts and tee shirts from Laurie's Embroidery. The attending members approved of the designs. The polo shirts are gray with a yellow and black "Erie Railroad"-like diamond logo, with "FCV" in the

middle. The logo is placed over the left side of the heart region. Under the diamond is "Railroad Historical Society" printed in black and surrounded by a yellow rectangle with rounded corners. The tee shirts are ash gray, with a photo of Erie 518 in the center, with "French Creek Valley Railroad Historical Society" printed in black and yellow below the photo. The board asked to have the first order made as soon as possible.

Special Events/Programs

The Erie Lackawanna Historical Society's Fall meeting in Cambridge Springs, was the next topic. Mike Connor of the ELHS is planning a trip to the area to go over the details. The event, planned for September 18 through the 20th will have registrations on Friday, the 18th. Also on Friday, a slide show is planned at the Riverside Inn between 6:00 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. FCVRRHS members are asked if they have slides they would like to have shown to contact Dennis Mead or Carl Timko.

Saturday's events will consist of hors-d'oeuvres, and seminars that begin at 1:00 p.m., with a break for refreshments at 2:00 p.m. Dinner will be at 6:00 p.m., with Carl Belke being the guest speaker shortly thereafter. Sunday, speeder rides will be available from Cambridge Springs to Miller Station, using speeders from a group in Erie. Fees for the rides will be payable to the owners club.

There may be model railroad layout tours if enough are available. Anyone wishing to have a tour of their layout, please contact Dennis Mead.

Pamphlets will be published and packaged with brochures from other area railroad museums to hand out at the meeting. Dennis Mead asked for help, especially from those that are members of the ELHS in setting up the event. If any FCVRRHS member is interested in attending, the admission fee is \$60 per person, the same as ELHS members. Checks or money orders are to be made payable to the ELHS, but sent to Carl Timko's home address. (email Carl at blebuddy@yahoo.com if you need the mailing address.)

The Greenberg's Toy & Train Show is at the Monroeville Convention Center, Monroeville, PA on July 11 and 12.

The Painesville, Ohio Railroad Museum is having another Railfanning Day on July 25, at its facility located at 475 Railroad St. at the depot. Food and drinks are available.

The Nickel Plate Road Berkshire #765 will be hauling an excursion train over the Youngstown line between Youngstown and Ashtabula, Ohio on July 25 and 26. The train is expected to depart at 8:30 a.m. and arrive in Ashtabula at around noon.

Membership

Members are reminded that

their membership dues are due on June 30.

Four members of the board were reelected - Vice President Dennis Mead, Treasurer Ed Cronin, Directors Bill McComas and Jack Sheets. As a condition of accepting another term as treasurer, Ed Cronin asked that an assistant treasurer be elected.

As a result, Carl Timko nominated his wife, Vanessa for the position. The attending members approved the nomination and elected Vanessa to the post. Congratulations, Vanessa!

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Thursday, July 16, 2015, at 6:30 p.m., at Pomona Park, Meadville, PA. The drive to the park is accessible from the west side of the French Creek Parkway, just beyond Mercer St.

