

The Second Section

Minutes from the March 21, 2013 meeting

President Bernie Hanmore called the membership meeting to order at 6:29 p.m., in the conference room of the U.S. Bronze Foundry & Machine, Inc., located at 18649 Brake Shoe Road, Meadville, PA

In attendance were Bernie Hanmore, Ed Cronin, Carl Timko, Bill McComas, Jack Sheets, Larry Johnson, John Snyder, Wayne Brown, Scott Royer, and John Nagurney.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Ed Cronin submitted his financial report for the month for the organization. Noted were current balances, income from the train show, expenses from the rent of the model railroad club, table fee from the train show, and the insurance premium that is coming due. A motion to approve payment of the insurance premium was made by John Snyder, and seconded by Jack Sheets. The motion carried by an unanimous decision of the attending members.

Ed also noted that a report was filed with the Pennsylvania Department of State, Bureau of Corporations and Charitable Organizations, that is due by April 30.

Committee Reports

-Museum-

At the Heritage Center board meeting, board

members were asked to consider membership in the Heritage Center. The hope is that the board will attain 100% membership. Once the silent phase of the capital campaign begins, FCVRRHS board members will be asked to make a pledge. When the FCVRRHS board reaches 100% membership in the Heritage Center, the members of the FCVRRHS will be asked to make a pledge. Membership in the Heritage Center is \$30 per year, however, all members of the FCVRRHS will receive a \$5 discount, making the cost only \$25.

Ed went into detail, explaining the leveraging method of fundraising that may be used.

The Heritage Center board is studying ways to engage children, starting at age 3, into hands-on demonstrations and learning different aspects of the tool and die industry. It would help students be more ready for technical training and job opportunities.

All FCVRRHS members are invited and encouraged to attend the Heritage Center annual meeting to be held Monday, June 10, 2013, at 7 p.m., in the Douglass Center, located on Bessemer St., Meadville, PA. The FCVRRHS's own Nate Clark will be speaking about the Shenango River railroad bridge, that was recently removed. A portion of this bridge was

removed and placed into storage. It will be incorporated into the design of the museum when built. The FCVRRHS will be providing refreshments.

The Heritage Center is planning to have ties, rail and ballast laid at the museum site soon. A rail switch will not be installed at this time, but the track will be designed as such to install one later on, if need be. Work crews and a work schedule will be needed, probably after two weeks from now. Plans are to use a logging truck to pick up ties, load them, then haul them to the museum site, where a front-end loader will unload the ties and place them into position.

The status of the Cambridge Springs trolley station is listed as still in discussion.

-Historical Archives-

Four calendars were sold at the Rainbow Gardens train show, along with one given as a gift. Ten others have been consigned as recently as this meeting. A total of fifteen calendars are left in stock.

-Property/Equipment-

The restoration of the #518 will begin soon, now that Spring is here. Some of the work needing done includes sandblasting, painting and mounting the air tanks, install the battery boxes, lifting the hood and

bolting it in place, reattaching the doors, handrails, hatches, and radiator shutters, cover the openings from the weather, possibly getting one or two window frames from a dealer, and painting and lettering the locomotive. It is intended for a local sign designer to make the lettering out of vinyl or decals.

Jack Sheets reports the signal head has been wired and is currently in storage in Corry.

The baggage car that is currently stored in Meadville Yard, will be moved at some point to the siding at U.S. Bronze, until a permanent home is determined. Moving the car will be priority over any maintenance on it. Jack Sheets was asked to put together a draft of a budget for track to display the car.

-Public

Relations/Education-

Submissions are needed soon for the Spring 2013 edition of the "**Valley Express**" newsletter. The newsletter will have the first part of an article by Denny Mead, photographs of the progress of the model railroad club layouts, and the president's message. Notes from each committee will also appear.

The website, www.fcvrhs.org received 543 hits between February 20 and March 19. The one day high was on March 18 with 95 hits! People are

starting to pay attention to the site. Bernie Hanmore was asked to write a story about his model railroad layout that will be posted on the website.

-Special Events/Programs-

The following are the upcoming shows and events for 2013. Please note, not all events are listed.

Nickel Plate 2-8-4 #765 will run excursions on May 12 between Rocky River, OH and Bellevue, OH, using the ex- NKP mainline. The #765 will then run excursions, over Memorial Day weekend, from Lewistown, PA to Gallitzin, PA, via the Horseshoe Curve.

The Lake Shore Railway Historical Society will have its Steam Weekend on August 17 and August 18, at North East, featuring the American Viscose 0-4-0T #6. This locomotive ran excursions over the OC&T in Titusville last year with the Flagg Coal #75.

A Carnival of Model Trains will be held on October 5th and 6th, at the Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds in Berea, OH.

The Orrville Heritage Society will have a Medina Loop excursion train on April 27, and a National Train Day excursion on May 11. The deadline to purchase tickets for either event is April 21 with the lunch, or April 26 for the excursion only. The website to visit is

www.orrvillerrailroad.com/literature/ml.pdf

The Fostoria (OH) Rail Preservation Society will begin building a five acre railfan park situated within the junction of the CSX and Norfolk Southern railroads. The park will have an open-air platform, restrooms, and parking for autos, RVs, and buses. It is expected to be completed by mid to late 2013.

The attending membership discussed ways to raise funding for general operations and upkeep of the equipment. The model railroad tours are still being planned, as dates need to be set as well confirming the layout owners that will participate.

-Model Railroad-

The HO group will meet at the Shops @ the Bank, 940 Park Avenue, Meadville, on Wednesdays, between 2:30 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.

The model railroad club members would like to have more model railroad clinics to help raise funds for the club.

A motion was made, by Jack Sheets, to use half of the Bingham fund to purchase tools for the club. Larry Johnson seconded the motion. The motion was carried by an unanimous vote of attending members.

-Membership-

Carl Timko donated several VHS railroad tapes that will be kept for the organization's library. The

tapes can be signed out by members. They could also be used for a movie night, if such an event is started. Discussion on having a slide show night or movie night continued. Members would be admitted for free, while non-members would pay a small fee. Also, the possibility of having a guest speaker was mentioned.

Next Membership Meeting

The next membership meeting will be Thursday, April 18, 2013, at 6:30 p.m., in the conference room of the U.S. Bronze Foundry and Machine, Inc., located at 18649 Brake Shoe Road, Meadville, PA

