

# The Second Section

Minutes from meeting of June 12, 2008

the museum  
site, the need

President Dennis Mead called the meeting to order at 7:27 p.m. at Hoss's Steak and Sea House, Route 322, Meadville, Pa, after the annual membership dinner.

Attending members were Dennis Mead, Ed Cronin, Bill McComas, Carl Timko, Larry Johnson, Larry Smith, Dan Higham, Bernie Hanmore, Jack Sheets, Nate Clark, and Jonathan Clark. Also in attendance were wives, children, and guests of the members.

The first order of business was to elect a treasurer, a vice president, and two board members. Nominees were Bernie Hanmore for vice president, Ed Cronin to continue as treasurer, Bill McComas to continue on the board of directors, and Jack Sheets as a member of the board. All nominees were voted for by unanimous decisions.

## *Treasurer's Report*

Treasurer Ed Cronin disclosed the balances and expenses for the month. He also said the grant and funds raised for expenditures of #518 will be moved into a separate fund, with a portion to be used for a civil engineering study for the museum site.

## *Old Business - Property/Equipment*

The total of visits to the caboose so far in June is five. There were no guests on June 1, with Bill

McComas and Carl Timko attending. Five guests came to the caboose on June 8 with Jack Sheets, Ed Cronin and Bernie Hanmore attending.

Jack Sheets questioned how we could get electrical service with the aid of a contractor. Currently, all construction is on hold until the civil engineering study is completed.

## *Public Relations/Education*

Webmaster Jonathan Clark mentioned a new layout for the website will be coming. The website needs updated and Jonathan will be adding the latest edition of the "Valley Express" newsletter to the website as one pdf file.

Congratulations to Bill McComas for his efforts on the "Valley Express". This issue of the newsletter is the best yet. Keep up the great work, Bill!

## *Budget/Finance*

The Harold Heist Foundation grant is due at the end of the month. Plans are to use it to purchase primer and three gallons of paint for the interior of the caboose.

## *Museum*

An article about the museum appeared in the Meadville Tribune recently. Ed Cronin was the correspondent. Plans for

to raise funds and local interest were detailed.

There has been no report from the civil engineering study as yet. The study is expected to take about a month to complete.

## *Special Events/Programs*

The One-Day Museum at the Perry St. station in Titusville, Pa., will be held Saturday, June 21 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Dennis Mead, Dan Higham will be attending along with Civil War group.

The annual Railroad Roundhouse will be held Saturday June 28, at the Downtown Mall, Meadville, Pa., in the space formerly occupied by the bingo hall. Hours will be from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

## *Membership*

Dues notices has been sent by the secretary at the order of the treasurer. Individual memberships are \$15, family memberships are \$30, and children 18 and under are \$1. Dues are to be in by June 30.

## *New Business - Property/Equipment*

Former Bessemer and Lake Erie Railroad combine #23 has been offererd to the FCVRRHS, free for the moving. It had been used as a gift shop by the

Pennsylvania Trolley Museum of Washington, Pa. It currently sits in Canonsburg, Pa. A question of whether it would be possible to use the roller-bearing trucks from the refrigerator car could be used to transport it to Meadville. There was concern that the coupler height might be affected. A motion was made to look at the combine to formulate a strategy to move it. A vote was taken, with unanimous approval from the attending consensus.

It was learned through Terry Martin, husband of grantwriter, Maryanne Martin, that Chipsco has taken possession of 1000 feet of track with one switch in the southern end of Meadville yard. They would like to get it off of their property. FCVRRHS was mentioned as a possible interested party. No official offer to the FCVRRHS has been made as yet. If the organization were interested, an onsite inspection would be needed to check it for quality.

### *Membership*

Congratulations to the following elected officers and board members: Ed Cronin -Treasurer, Bernie Hanmore - Vice President, Bill McComas - Board of Directors, Jack Sheets - Board of Directors.

### *Model Railroad*

The board selected Monday, June 23, at 7 p.m.

to meet at the U.S. Bronze & Machine, Inc. to discuss the long term and short term plans for the layout. It is possible a work session could ensue. (Editor's note: Notices has been emailed to members regarding the meeting at the layout.) The U.S. Bronze is located at 18649 Brake Shoe Road, Meadville, Pa., off of Route 19 (north).

### *Public Relations/Education*

Copies of the "Valley Express" newsletter will now be mailed to each member. Newsletters have all been mailed out by June 16. Members who do not receive one, contact Carl Timko at [blebuddy@yahoo.com](mailto:blebuddy@yahoo.com).

### *Special Events/Programs*

The caboose is open on Sundays, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. The following is a schedule of attendants:

- June 15 - Denny and Donna Mead
- June 22 - NEED VOLUNTEERS
- June 29 - Ed Cronin, Bill McComas
- July 6 - Carl Timko
- July 13 - Denny Mead (radio remote)
- July 20 - NEED

VOLUNTEERS

- July 27 - NEED

VOLUNTEERS

If any member would like to volunteer on dates marked as needed, please

contact Dennis Mead or Carl Timko.

### *Commendations*

The following members received "high honors" from President Dennis Mead at the meeting:

Bill and Yetivemarie McComas for their generous monetary donation. Bill was also commended for his efforts in writing, editing and having the newsletter published.

Carl Timko for his efforts as secretary.

Jack Sheets for his work at the caboose and media relations with the local radio stations and newspapers. Also to Linda Sheets in help with the decor.

Al Reibel, Hunt Christie, and Bernie Hanmore for their hand in the "grunt" work. Great work, guys!

Ed Cronin for his expertise in finances.

Dan Higham and his employees for the room to house the layout and their work in preparing the layout for rebuilding.

Jonathan Clark for his work on the website, including the graphics.

Larry Johnson and Larry Smith for their contributions and efforts.

All fo the ladies for their patience, understanding, help and encouragement.

### *Next meeting*

Be advised, the next meeting will be at the caboose, if weather permits, at 6 p.m. Please bring your

own chair. If the weather is  
inclement, it will be at the  
U.S. Bronze at 6 p.m.