

The Second Section

Minutes from the August 18, 2011 meeting

President Dennis Mead called the board and general 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 Dennis Mead, Ed Cronin, Carl Timko, Larry Johnson, Jack Sheets, John Snyder, Tom Collard, Denis Manross, Al Reibel, Stan Niwa, and John Nagursky.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Ed Cronin gave his report on current balances, including income from sales and donations, and expenses.

Model Railroad committee chairman Tom Collard had no report, but would distribute it later to the board.

Committee Reports -Historical/Archives-

Dennis Mead announced that the 2012 FCVRRHS Erie Railroad historical calendars are now available for purchase. The board established a price of \$12.00 per calendar and a per calendar fee for the merchants that would sell the calendars for the organization. The board needs to learn what the local mailing rate might be. Customers who order and wish the calendars to be shipped to them, must pay the appropriate postage.

The board also must set up a Paypal account on the website (www.fcvrrhs.org) to better facilitate the sales of merchandise.

The board discussed possible selling locations. Locations discussed are not finalized with the exceptions of Tom' Train Terminal at the @ the Bank shopping center in Meadville; the train show at Rainbow Gardens in Erie, on November 6; and the Christmas layout., and at the caboose. It is hoped arrangements can be made to sell the calendars at the Crawford County Historical Society, the Crawford County Convention and Visitor's Bureau, the Meadville Market House, the Mercer Junction Hobby Shoppe, the Lake Shore Railway Historical Society, the Greenville Railroad Park, the Erie Lackawanna Historical Society, the Susquehanna Railroad Historical Society, and the Crawford County Fair.

A single calendar each may be submitted to Kalmbach Publishing and Carstens Publishing for their review. From all indications, the calendar may be a quick sell.

The board ordered 100 calendars and can reorder, should the need arise.

-Property/Equipment-

The ALCO S2 #518 is now ready to be lifted and transported to Meadville. The remaining work to be

done is to remove retainers from the AC&J RR S2 #107. Its brake rigging and cables won't be removed until the trucks are removed and swapped with the #518's.

Ed Cronin gave a brief synopsis of procedures to be dealt with by the property/equipment committee.

Dennis Mead said he declined Chuck Hunter's offer of providing a gondola for the transport of the #518, since the board decided on hauling the chassis by truck and trailer.

Jack Sheets is still waiting for replies from several trucking companies to haul the #518.

An escort service has been obtained free of charge from Dan Wheeler. He needs one driver to help with the escort.

Jack is also still waiting on quotes from crane services. Lloyd's Rental is the only one that has offered a quote.

The Erie Lackawanna caboose #C356 is scheduled to be washed and waxed on Saturday, September 17. Volunteers are needed to get the job done. If it rains on the 17th, the wash and wax will be rescheduled for Saturday, the 24th of September.

Volunteers are also needed to help out at the caboose on its last tour date of the year, Sunday, September 4.

-Public

Relations/Education-

Jack Sheets and Carl Timko reported the result of the caboose tour on August 7, which coincided with the special rare mileage passenger excursion down the Oil City branch to Franklin and back to Meadville. Signed visitors totalled nine, while at least one visitor didn't sign in, but did take the tour. Several donations were received, and one t-shirt was sold.

In response to a question of a proposed barbecue fundraiser, Dennis Mead informed the proposers that the organization is currently not in a position to deal with this kind of fundraising.

All submissions for the Fall 2011 issue of the newsletter, *The Valley Express*, must be sent to editor Bill McComas by the first week of September.

The FCVRRHS will have a table at the Rainbow Gardens train show, tentatively scheduled for Sunday, November 6. Volunteers will be appreciated.

Several sizes of the FCVRRHS t-shirt are running low in inventory. The board is planning to reorder some sizes.

-Special Events/Programs-

The Erie Lackawanna Historical Society 2011 spring convention is getting closer. The organization needs to start planning to receive the ELHS members,

and plan for some events that would entertain them. It is hoped a passenger excursion could be arranged. The ELHS will need hotels and motels, and a room big enough to hold their events.

-Museum-

Ed Cronin reported the progress in finding a home for the museum. The museum committee has made incredible progress since the project started.

-Model Railroad-

John Snyder and Scott Wilson worked on the HO layout's benchwork and a connection to the N scale layout. More work on the Christmas layout was also done.

John Nagursky, a member and an amateur radio hobbyist, asked the board if it would consider sharing the model railroad club room in the @ the Bank shopping center in Meadville. The radio group would like a six foot table for their radios and their meetings, which are to occur every third Tuesday. Tom Collard noted that the owner of the building, Ed Fine, is planning to correct the outside access to the upstairs. It would help current vendors from staying later than their closing hours to tend to their shops while activities are occurring upstairs.

-Membership-

Ed Shaw has dropped his

membership due to ill health. The FCVRRHS wishes Ed the best in battling his condition.

Dianne Jones, the webmaster for the FCVRRHS website, is also in the membership's thoughts and prayers. She is having surgery to hopefully alleviate her condition. Dianne has done a wonderful job on the website. All our best to her.

Next Meeting

The next FCVRRHS board and general membership meeting will be on Thursday, September 15, 2011, 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.

