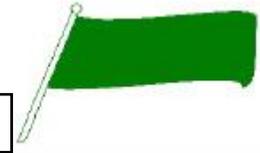


The Second Section



Minutes from the March 17, 2011 meeting

President Dennis Mead called the board and general membership meeting to order at 6:28 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, Bernie Hanmore, Ed Cronin, Carl Timko, Larry Johnson, Jack Sheets, Tom Collard, Denis Manross, Lee Greenfield, Stanley Niwa, and Al Reibel.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Ed Cronin released the current balances to the attending members, including income and expenses from the March 6 train show held at the Rainbow Gardens, Erie, PA. Ed also informed the members on third of the insurance premium for the caboos and directors' liability will be due in April. The other two payments will be made in the succeeding months.

Committee Reports *-Museum-*

The museum board met with Karen Petrucelli of KP Consulting on March 7. The board then signed a contract with KP Consulting to conduct a financial feasibility study in preparation for the fundraising for the museum. One thing delaying the start

of fundraising is that the board is waiting to acquire property on which to place the museum. It is hoped that a parcel will be acquired by September 1, 2011.

- Property/Equipment-

Dennis Mead spoke with Don Colangelo of the Delaware-Lackawanna Railroad. Mr. Colangelo offered his advise for continuing with dismantling the #518, in preparation for its transportation to be sandblasted and painted. The front hood has bolts inside that hold it in place. The rear hood has bolts to the chassis and cab, which is fastened with springbolts.

The cab, however, will need spotwelds to be cut in order to lift the cab off of the frame.

Bob Callahan of the AC&J Railroad will have the #518 moved to an area where our workcrews can access the locomotive and remove the necessary parts. A work session on the S2 is planned for the first week of April. Ed Cronin, Dennis Mead, John Snyder, Bernie Hanmore, Stanley Niwa, Denis Manross, and possibly Jack Sheets volunteered to be on the work crew. Hunt Christie and Terry Martin were thought to be available as well. Members are welcome to volunteer, but be prepared to get dirty. Once

the hoods and cab are removed, the AC&J will be able to remove the prime mover, generator, fan clutch, and swap out the trucks. Lee Greenfield suggested taking photos or videos of the dismantling of #518.

Hunt Christie is ready to raise and level the track under the caboos. He has a pneumatic tamper which will make the job a lot easier. A work session at the display site is scheduled for Thursday March 24 at 1:00 p.m. (ed. note: At the time of the composition of this edition, the caboos has been moved, the track raised and leveled. More ballast is needed before the caboos can be moved back into position.) Volunteers include those mentioned that volunteered for the #518 work session, and possibly others.

Dennis Mead brought attention to the board that the signal mast that was donated to the organization by the Lake Shore Railway Historical Society will need to be transported back to Crawford County soon.

Dennis has been contacted by Connie Walrath, who has an Erie Railroad police uniform that she wishes to donate to the FCVRRHS, along with some manuals. Arrangements are being made to accept the uniform.

*-Public
Relations/Education-*

Our newsletter, *The Valley Express*, has been getting some good reviews on the current issue. Editor Bill McComas deserves kudos for putting out such fine newsletter. Credit also goes to Kevin Pipp for helping Bill with the layout, and Staples for publishing it. Bill and his wife, Yetivemarie, also have paid for the publishing of the last several issues. Thank you, very much, Bill and Yetivemarie!

Dennis Mead was in contact with Scott Symans of Dunkirk, New York regarding the possibility of bringing the Viscose Co. 0-4-0 #6 to Meadville for display or operation. The locomotive was on display for a day at the Children's Museum in Erie during the first week of March. The cost of transportation and display will be investigated.

It is hoped the locomotive could be available for the Techfest event scheduled for May 11 at the Bessemer Street complex in Meadville.

A motion to reimburse the secretary for postage of the newsletters, effective with the next issue, was made by John Snyder. Tom Collard seconded the motion. The motion carried by an unanimous vote for the motion, by the attending members. The secretary has been paying for the postage

of the newsletters for the past several years.

Several members of our organization attended the Rainbow Gardens train show on March 6. Many contacts were made or renewed. The FCVRRHS will have a table at this same venue on Sunday, November 6, 2011.

Dennis Mead noted the website (www.fcvrrhs.org) received 34 hits during the period of March 9 to March 17. A board discussed linking the website to the website of the Erie Lackawanna Historical Society (www.erielackhs.org). The ELHS would like a couple of the FCVRRHS members be able to post events on the ELHS website.

-Model Railroad-

Model Railroad committee chairman Tom Collard noted that the newly created model railroad club is not an official organization. The club may have more space to use than originally planned. Ed Fine, of @ the Bank, has offered the club some more space if a current tenant moves. The space may be available at a discounted monthly fee. The back of the room is being cleaned out and is ready for work benches.

The club meets on Friday nights until the room is set up to fully function. The club may meet once every six months on a weekend to

attract more of the membership.

Al Reibel donated some N scale locomotives to be sold for fundraising. Scott Wilson currently has those locomotives and is servicing them.

An N scale layout is planned to be the first layout built. The benchwork will be built on two different levels.

An HO layout will be built afterwards, and a TT scale loop is to be built sometime in the future.

Dick Yeager, who built and donated a model of a Meadville trolley to the FCVRRHS, has invited the membership to visit his O scale traction layout. A plan to visit Al Notarione's layout is being worked out. Mr. Notarione is known to some that attended his weathering clinic last year.

A fellow model railroader, who isn't a member of the FCVRRHS, is needing to sell off his layout and equipment. Robert Motzing of Conneaut Lake is offering to sell his equipment because of failing health. He may be contacted at 382-6466. One of the features of Mr. Motzing's layout was the turnouts were operated by compressed air.

John Snyder brought in three O scale buildings to show the members. Two were purchased, while the other, a model of a restaurant, was built by his wife. All were very nicely done. She is planning on

building an O scale model of a bookstore and cafe.

The O scale trolley/train layout that is on display during the Christmas season along with the HO layout, is in need of a permanent table. It needs to be a bit wider to accomodate the radii of the track.

-Membership-

The board discussed the venue and date for the annual banquet and business dinner. Ed Cronin suggested the Meadville Country Club, and will get the information in order to schedule the dinner.

The date of the dinner had been moved from June 16 to May 19 to avoid conflict with the Thurston Classic balloon race. The date now is moved to June 9 by an unanimous decision by the board and attending members. A buffet was thought to be more appealing to the membership. A presentation during the dinner and business meeting hadn't been decided upon, as yet. Suggestions included bringing in an unidentified gentleman from Oil City to talk about steam locomotives, other possible guest speakers, or view a video of the departed Stuart Ladner. The video is one of a series of railroaders telling of their experiences while working for a railroad. The videos were made through the efforts of the FCVRRHS and a staff from Allegheny

College.

-Other news and notes-

Tom Collard announced his participation in a fund drive for the Muscular Dystrophy Association. He will be one of the local celebrities jailed. Bail will be raised to release Tom for the benefit of MS.

The Lake Shore Railway Historical Society is planning a trip to the Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village in Dearborn, Michigan on June 18 and June 19. The cost is \$350 per person and includes round-trip bus fare, a hotel room based on double occupancy, a Sunday morning breakfast, dinner prior to the departure back home, Sunday evening, admission to the museum and village, and tickets for rides. There will be two boarding sites, one at Dunkirk, NY and one at the North East (PA) High School. Bus seats are limited to a total of 29 riders. Reservations are based on a first-come, first-served basis. The deadline for making a reservation is April 30, 2011. If you are interested, contact Sid Lewis at 814-899-1892.

-Next Meeting-

The next board and general membership meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 21, 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.

