



The Second Section

Minutes from the September 21, 2017 meeting



President Bernie Hanmore called the membership meeting to order at 6:38 p.m. at the display site in Pomona Park, Meadville, PA.

Attending the meeting were Bernie Hanmore, Dennis Mead, Ed Cronin, Carl Timko, Bill McComas, Jack Sheets, John Snyder, Stan Niwa, Chris Manning, Al Reibel, Dave Ellis, Wayne Brown, and John Nagurney.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Ed Cronin read the status of the organization to the attending members. The report consisted of balances, income, expenses and a summary of the filing with the Pennsylvania Department of Revenue concerning the non-profit status of the FCVRRHS. Income was from donations, dues, cash from the scrap drive, and merchandise sales. Expenses included a reimbursement for the purchase of a floodlight bulb.

Committee Reports Budget / Finance

The fund-raising site on Generosity.com was recently updated.

Contact has been made with Norfolk Southern's Marcus Yancey. However, NS has not sent a quote yet to haul the DL&W snowplow to Hornell.

Trains Magazine has sent a second confirmation of receipt of an entry application to Trains' Preservation Award. The award, consisting of a cash amount, would go a long ways to getting the snowplow to Meadville. Let's hope for the best.

John Snyder bought and donated a train set to be used in the train set raffle in December. The raffle will raise funds to help benefit the Toys for Tots campaign in Crawford County. Thank you, John!

Dennis Mead displayed the proofs for the pages of the 2018 FCVRRHS calendar. A motion was made to accept the calendar for production. The motion was seconded and carried, approving the calendar. Twenty six photographs have been acquired to be used for calendars in 2018 and 2019. Members and the public are encouraged to donate or lend their railroad photographs to be published. Sixty calendars will be ordered to be sold at shows, through the website (www.fcvrrhs.org) and other events.

The FCVRRHS will attend the Erie Train Show again on Sunday, November 5. Three 14 foot tables will be needed, as Ed Cronin will bring enough merchandise to require an extra table.

Membership

The FCVRRHS welcomes two new junior members. Blaine and Zeph Lee joined in August after visiting the display site with their grandfather, Dan Peterson. Zeph was extremely impressed by the collection. Welcome aboard Blaine and Zeph!

Museum

Ed Cronin said the Northwestern Pennsylvania Heritage Partnership is planning to build a replica of a one-truck trolley car to be used and displayed at the Cambridge Springs Trolley Station. The plan is to build the sides at the U.S. Bronze and have the frame welded. Then the frame and sides will be put together. The rest of the trolley would be scratch-built. If anyone is interested in helping with this project, please contact Ed.

Property / Equipment

As of the September meeting, the completion of the renovations of the B&LE boxcar were waiting for the remaining boards to be sent to be milled. It may be two weeks before Olan Wood Products is able to take on the project again. The west side door also needed

wood to rebuild it. The roof walk is completed.

The status of the snowplow is relatively unchanged. The board is still waiting for a quote from NS to haul it to Hornell. Contact with the Over the Hill Trucking firm is being kept open in case there is no option but to have it trucked. Previous conversations with the owner weren't promising as far as cost is concerned.

The signal was installed on August 15 by FCVRRHS work crews. Use of Terry Martin's backhoe helped make the job easier. The following week, the signal was wired up and now changes lens color every 70 seconds. The long lens hoods were removed. Plans are to fabricate shorter ones and install them. Chris Manning will lend his lens hoods to help make a template for the new ones for the 518/2 signal. Other work yet to do on the signal, as of the September meeting, were to fabricate a back platform and install it with the front portion. The ladder also needs to be installed after making the curved connection at the top of the signal.

The fifth floodlight was installed and the other four repositioned to even out the lighting of the display. A bulb was replaced in one of the lamps.

Future work sessions may include wiring up the 518's front headlight and the cabooses interior. Marker lights may be reinstalled on the cabooses and lit.

The cabooses were waxed and buffed for the first time in four years. It hasn't looked this good in a long while.

Another "Open" flag will be attached to the fence. Two other such flags are placed in the flag holders on the east side when the caboose is open for tours.

Work sessions next spring could include repairing and painting the Pennsylvania Railroad tool car.

Jack Sheets is still looking for a surveyor for the lot across Water St. Extension. He has attempted to contact four surveyors so far, with no replies as yet.

Public Relations/ Education

A store for the large HO layout that is displayed nearly every year during the holiday season is still being sought. There is only one store vacant in the Downtown Mall, that of the old Robert's Jewelry. Currently Shirley Barnes, of the Local Artisans Shop, is negotiating with the mall manager. If she does get the store, the layout may be displayed there. Mrs. Barnes is also negotiating for a store on Park Avenue next to the Gospel Book Store.

The display site was opened to the public starting in August. Visitors can tour the caboose and walk around the rest of the equipment. Visitors are to refrain from climbing on the 518, the boxcar and the signal for their own safety. The site is open on Sundays from 1 p.m. to

4 p.m., until the weather does not permit it. It may be as late as the middle of October for the last open day. Currently, the average number of visitors has been around three per day.

Special Events/Programs

Upcoming train shows include the following:

October 7,8 - Great Berea Train Show - Cuyahoga Co. Fairgrounds, use Bagley Rd. entrance, Berea, OH; 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days; Admission: \$8 per day or \$10 for two day admission.

October 8 - Buffalo Falling Leaves Train Show - Polish Falcons, 4555 Columbia Ave., Depew, NY; 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

October 12-15 - NMRA Mid-Eastern Region Convention - Sheraton Harrisburg-Hershey Hotel, Harrisburg, PA; Registration at door: NMRA members - \$59, non-members - \$69; Clinics and tours have extra fees; www.mer.org

October 22 - Autumn on the Southern Tier Train Show - Olean Intermediate/Middle School, 401 Wayne St., Olean, NY; 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

October 29 - Castle Shannon Train Show & Rail Event - Fire Dept. of Castle Shannon, 3600 Liberty St., Castle Shannon, PA 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Admission: \$7.

November 2-4 - Fine Scale Model Railroader Expo 2017 - Blair Co. Convention Center, Altoona, PA; www.modelrailroadexpo.com

November 4 - Cleveland 2-Rail O Scale Train Show -

Lakeland Community College, Kirtland, OH; 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Admission: \$7.

November 4 - How to Build a Layout - Lakeland Community College, Kirtland, OH; 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Free admission.

November 5 - Erie Train Show - Rainbow Gardens, Waldameer Park, Erie, PA; 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Admission: \$5. COME SEE US THERE!

November 5 - Model Training Day - Black River Landing and Transportation Center, 421 Black River Lane, Lorain, OH; 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Admission: Free.

There is one train excursion in the next month. The Everett Railroad will be running 2-6-0 #11 on a photo charter on the Hollidaysburg, Claysburg, and Martinsburg branches. There is also a night photo session.

Other News

Chris Manning noted that two locomotives that belong to new member John Howell are now in Meadville Yard. NIWX B32-8s #538 and #539 are both former Norfolk Southern units and are basically still in NS paint. The units are not in working order yet. NIWX is the reporting marks for the Northern Illinois & Wisconsin Railway, a locomotive leasing and sales company with offices in Edinboro, PA.

One other note of special interest to railfans who prefer to photograph using slide film. Kodak is bringing back the Ektachrome slide film. It will

be in 35mm format, but only available in 36 frame rolls. It will be available along with the Ektachrome movie film in late 2017. The movie film will be only available directly from Kodak.

Next Meeting

The next membership meeting will be Thursday, October 19, at 6:30 p.m. at the Cambridge Springs Trolley Station, located along U.S. Routes 6 and 19, in Cambridge Springs, PA.

