



The Second Section

Minutes of the July 19, 2018 Meeting



President Bernie Hanmore called the membership meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. at the railroad equipment display in Pomona Park, Meadville, PA.

Attending the meeting were Bernie Hanmore, Dennis Mead, Ed Cronin, Carl and Vanessa Timko, Bill McComas, Jack Sheets, John Snyder, Stan Niwa, Ron Stafford, Nick Ozorak, Al Reibel, John Howell, Jonathon, Stephanie, and Alexis Gable, Dave Ellis, Terry Martin, Greg Slater, Nate Clark, Preston Clark, and guests Sam Livingston and Mike Crowley. Mr. Crowley is a reporter for the Meadville Tribune. Sam is a former member.

Treasurer's Report

The monthly financial status was read by Treasurer Ed Cronin. The report included current balances, income, and expenses. The current balance is an increase over last month's balance due to membership renewals, a donation for the museum, and a donation for the youth model railroad club. Expenses were the electric bill, the website fee, PA state sales tax, Crawford County Convention and Visitor's Bureau dues, Paypal fees, a refund to correct an overcharge, the post office box rental, and Walker Surveying, for the second survey, which has not been paid as of the meeting. The survey

included revised prints of the properties across Water St. extension, and the additional two lots.

Committee Reports Historical / Archives

There was no report from this committee at the meeting, however, it should be noted the organization received a PRR Adlake switch lantern from the Depot at Doolittle's in DuBois, PA. A thank you letter was sent expressing our gratitude.

Membership

Ed Cronin reported that only 22 memberships have been renewed. Those that have not renewed as yet are asked to renew soon. Your dues are instrumental in keeping the FCVRRHS running. Especially now with all of the projects currently underway.

President Hanmore thanked Terry and Maryann Martin for hosting the picnic and membership meeting last month.

As a result from the elections last month, Bernie Hanmore, Carl Timko, and John Snyder

are continuing as President, Secretary, and Director, respectively.

The board amended the by-laws allowing an increase in the number of board members from

nine to eleven. New directors are Ron Stafford, John Nagurney, and Nick Ozorak. The additional director is due to Vanessa Timko declining to continue as a director.

Model Railroad

The Youth Model Railroad Club was launched with a mini-train show at the Foundry Co-Works located in the Parkside Commons (the former Meadville Junior High School). There were 20 visitors to see Ed Cronin's switching layout and learn about what the club has to offer applicants. Five kids from ages 13 to 18 will be selected to spend two hours after school, twice a week to learn to build a 4' x 8' model railroad layout. The sessions will begin in September.

Though, it was not mentioned at the meeting, time is getting short to build a new model railroad layout to replace the two we had on display last year. There are only three months left to build. Those interested may contact any board member to be included.

Museum

An auction was held at the former Meadville Farm & Garden on July 7. Most of the contents were auctioned and the former B&LE freight station

was up for bid. No qualifying bids were made. A bid under the reserve bid was made by representatives of the FCVRRHS and the Northwestern Pennsylvania Heritage Partnership. Though it was not sold at auction, a meeting is to be set up with the trustee to learn what can be done to acquire the building. It is hoped a deal can be worked out to acquire the structure so it can be operated as a museum.

Property / Equipment

Terry Martin wired up the north headlight on the #518 on June 26. He said it operates but the glass needs replaced as it is cracked. He also stated that inside the hood is a dirty, rusty mess that needs cleaned up and painted. The board is to set a work session for that project in the fall.

Denny Mead mentioned the sander hoses are in need of replacing on the 518.

The restoration of the B&LE boxcar is ever so close to being complete. The west door and rollers were installed. A few grab irons and a corner plate are yet to be installed, then the door needs a coat of paint and lettered. Padlocks will be needed to keep the boxcar secure.

The Erie-Lackawanna caboose still needs to be wired so a light or two can be used inside, and possibly have an outlet to power a fan in the summer during the caboose tours.

The Pennsylvania Railroad

baggage/tool car will have to be moved onto a display track as soon as possible to avoid storage charges.

Now that the lots have been surveyed, it is hoped work to prep the lots to install display tracks will begin soon.

At long last, the Lackawanna snowplow is due to be delivered by the end of this meeting. (*Ed. note: The train crew outlawed before reaching Meadville that evening, and delivered the snowplow the next day*). It has been two years and ten months since it was donated to the FCVRRHS by the Growth Resources of Wellsboro, PA. Thank you again, Ferlin Patrick! The first job with the snowplow is to remove the graffiti from the side after being tagged while in Buffalo. After that is accomplished, it will be moved to the yard until the display track is ready. Dennis Mead said that due to the WNYP being so busy, it will probably be lifted over with a crane. When locks are bought for the boxcar, at least one more will be needed for the snowplow.

Public Relations / Education

Volunteers are needed to tend the caboose and display site on Sundays from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. while we have the display site open for tours during the summer. At least two members are needed each Sunday. Those who volunteer can get a key from Jack Sheets or Carl Timko. Volunteers are asked to cover

the merchandise after closing to keep the dust off.

Carl Timko proposed having a Railroad Author's Day at the display site when the snowplow is ready to be opened to the public. Several authors have expressed interest in such an event. A discussion on exactly how to raise funds from the event will be continued next month. Two authors have offered two different ways, and a third is also optional. Authors are invited to sell and sign their books for those who buy them. Authors expressing interest include Ken Springirth, Larry DeYoung, Wayne Cole, Pete Gifford, and Barbara Hamilton. Invitations have been sent to three others. This should be a fun event for all railfans and bookworms.

Special Events / Programs

The following train shows are upcoming:

August 11 - Summerail 2018 - at the Palace Theater located at 276 W. Center St., Marion, OH. The seminar is from 1 p.m. to 10 p.m. and has an admission fee of \$25. The train show is located in the pavilion west of the theater and is included with the seminar, however, if one is only going to the train show, the admission is \$5. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

August 26 - Painesville Railroad Memorabilia Show at the Painesville Railroad Museum, located at 475 Railroad St, Painesville, OH. The hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

and the admission is \$5.

September 8,9 - Buffalo Central Terminal Train Show at the Buffalo Central Terminal located at 495 Padenewski Dr., Buffalo, NY. The hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and the admission fee is \$5.

September 22 - Canfield Train and Toy Show at the Canfield Fairgrounds, located at 7265 Columbiana-Canfield Rd., Canfield, OH. The hours are 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and the admission is \$5.

Rail excursions are becoming more plentiful again. The Oil Creek & Titusville Railroad has train rides Wednesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays, and Sundays from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Also, Murder Mystery Train Rides on July 28 (sorry, sold out) from 4:45 p.m. to 9 p.m. and on August 25, from 4:45 p.m. to 9 p.m. Another special event is Speeder Rides on August 11 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Other excursions include the following:

August 18, 19, 25, 26 - Steam Weekends - Rochester & Genesee Valley Railroad Museum in Rush, NY, featuring American Viscose 0-4-0 #6.

August 26 to September 3 - Williams Grove Historical Steam Engine Association Steam Show at Mechanicsburg, PA, featuring Pennsylvania RR class B4 0-6-0 #643. (*Yes, there is another #643*).

September 1,2 - Steamtown Raifest 2018 at the Scranton, PA facilities. Diesel powered trip to Moscow, PA; Short rides with Baldwin 0-6-0 #26; trolley

rides, night photo sessions and demonstrations.

September 15 - Everett RR's "Steam into the Cove" is a 27 mile ride between Hollidaysburg and Martinsburg, PA using Everett RR ALCO 2-6-0 #11.

September 15, 16 - Rochester & Genesee Valley Railroad Museum Diesel Days featuring train rides behind the many diesel locomotives the museum has on its roster. The museum is based in Rush, NY.

Side Track

Nate Clark mentioned at the meeting that there is a company in or near the Camp Reynolds Industrial Park that has some jet-powered snowblowers that may be available. The business is recycling the jet engines and has the remains available. Nate says these are fairly light and can be loaded into a truck. He says there are no railroad museums that have such an important piece of equipment on their rosters. These machines cleared snow out of switches.

Next Meeting

The next membership meeting will be Thursday, August 16, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. at the Railroad Equipment Display site in Pomona Park, Meadville, PA, weather permitting. It is also conditional on if we happen to acquire the B&LE freight station. If it is acquired, we will meet there. The station is located at 136 Bessemer St.,

Meadville, PA. Wherever it is, see you there!



Former DL&W Russell snowplow #95904 arrived in Meadville, 7/21/2018 - photo: Carl Timko