



The Second Section

Minutes from the September 20, 2018 meeting



President Bernie Hanmore called the membership meeting to order at 6:30 p.m., September 20, 2018, in the conference room of the U.S. Bronze Foundry & Machine, Inc., located at 18649 Brake Shoe Road, Meadville, PA.

Attending the meeting were Bernie Hanmore, Dennis Mead, Carl Timko, Bill McComas, Jack Sheets, John Snyder, Stan Niwa, Ron Stafford, Nick Ozorak, John Howell, Jim Saulsbery, David Ellis, Scott Royer, and guest Denis Manross.

Treasurer's Report

Secretary Carl Timko read the report Treasurer Ed Cronin had prepared. Current balances, income and expenses for the past month were disclosed. Income was from donations for the Meadville Model Railroad Club and from scrap metal Jack Sheets had recycled for cash. Also included as income, dues from a member, and a sale of a tee-shirt. Expenses were the Penelec bill, supplies for the Meadville Model Railroad Club, and a service charge from PNC Bank.

Committee Reports Budget / Finance

Carl Timko called the board's attention to the need to order more shirts to have for the Erie

Train Show. A motion was made by Carl to approve the purchase of 19 shirts. John Snyder seconded the motion. The motion passed with an unanimous vote of the attending members.

Dennis Mead informed the board that the 2019 calendars were being planned. There were only five or six photos from the compact disc of the Meadville Conneaut Lake & Linesville Railroad that were publishable. But, there are enough photos to complete the calendar. Dennis noted the need to approve funding for calendars so they will be available for sale at the Erie Train Show. Carl Timko made the motion to approve the funding of 60 calendars. John Snyder seconded the motion. The motion carried by an unanimous vote of the attending membership.

Carl then asked for funding of four books of stamps to mail the newsletter when it is published. A motion to approve funding of the stamps was made by Carl and seconded by John Snyder. The motion carried by an unanimous vote of the attending membership.

Bills for the purchase of 2 loads of gravel and a load of limestone was discussed. Another load of limestone for ballast will be coming after the

track panels are assembled.

The organization received a donation of a box of HO scale buildings. The name of the donor was not mentioned at the meeting. Dennis Mead will be donating HO scale model railroad equipment from when he had an HO layout. These will be sold at the Erie Train Show.

Membership

There are still 38 members who have not renewed their memberships. Ed Cronin mentioned in the last meeting he would be contacting these members soon.

Member Terry Martin is in the hospital and starting his recovery from surgery. Members can send their well wishes to his residence only. If you need his address, contact the secretary at blebuddy@yahoo.com.

Model Railroad

Bernie Hanmore and Ed Cronin are working on a layout plan for the new model railroad layout. It is hoped it can be built and ready for display by the holiday season starting the day after Thanksgiving. Members are working to secure a place for it to be displayed.

Nick Ozorak now has five participants for the Meadville Model Railroad Club, which is

to start on October 2. A lease has been signed with CoWorks at the Parkside Commons, where the sessions will be held. Funds are budgeted for cost of the utilities. Two facilitators will be on hand, with Dave Ellis as the supervisor of record. Nick asked for donations of tools and a workbench for the club.

Dennis Mead noted there is a new hobby shop in Jamestown, NY. He visited it over the previous weekend and said it was mostly model trains with a few other items.

Museum

The status of the Bessemer and Lake Erie Railroad freight station in Meadville is still at a stand-still, as of this meeting. The trustee is still asking for a price less than the original asking price, but is still out of reach for the Northwestern Pennsylvania Heritage Partnership and FCVRRHS. Nick Ozorak asked if he could engage in conversations with the Economic Progress Alliance concerning the freight station, even though sale of the station is up to the trustee. Nick was given permission to try.

Property / Equipment

Preparations for placing the snowplow on display are well underway. The ground has been dug and graded by Brett Devore. The board thanked Lloyd's Rental for the use of a tractor and Brett to do the job. Dirt and gravel base and a layer

of ballast has been laid. A second layer is needed, according to John Snyder. A work session to rake the ballast will be scheduled soon. Rick Rowlands and a crew from the Youngstown Steel Heritage Foundation volunteered to build the track and tamp it down. Ties, rail, and necessary the hardware will be assembled.

As reported last month, the PRR baggage car #9035 was sold to Allen Maples of the Everett Railroad. There was a report that he will move the car on October 16, but another report mentioned that it will happen in the early part of the first week of October.

Public Relations / Education

The caboose tours are done for the season, except by appointment. Attendance averaged around 4 visitors per day, with two days with no visitors.. Sales were minimal, but membership applications were handed out to potential new members. The organization needs to find a way to boost attendance.

Valley Express editor Carl Timko informed everyone the time to submit articles and photos for the newsletter is today. He mentioned that a every effort will be made to get the newsletter out soon.

The 150th anniversary of the Bessemer and Lake Erie Railroad is approaching. The FCVRRHS should have a program of some sort to

celebrate the Bessemer's birthday. It is not known exactly what the event will be, but Carl Timko mentioned the Conneaut Lake Area Historical Society should be involved also.

Board member Bill McComas passed around a letter to the Meadville Tribune that he wrote. The letter is to bring the public's attention to the many points of interest that is in Meadville and Crawford County. Places that should bring in tourists which would in turn improve the economy of the county and its communities. Bill asked if he had permission to submit it and was wholeheartedly given permission to do so.

Carl Timko contacted Brian MacMurray of the Meadville Medical Center to inquire the availability of the old Kmart building or any other that may be available owned by the Meadville Medical Center. Mr. MacMurray related that the Kmart building is soon to be razed. Carl is to call Mr. MacMurray the week following this meeting to find out if any other buildings were available.

An event planned for 2019, coinciding with the dedication of the snowplow, is a Railroad Authors Day. The event will feature several railroad book authors, who will sell and sign their books for those that purchase them. The FCVRRHS will use the event to raise funds by asking for a percentage of sales of the books or a set fee donation. One author indicated she would donate all proceeds

to the organization.

Special Events / Programs

The Conneaut Lake Area Historical Society will have a Power Point™ presentation of and by the FCVRRHS on October 15. Bernie Hanmore, Dennis Mead, and Sandy Porter will be the featured speakers.

The number of train shows will be growing with autumn settling in. There are at least eight train shows in the next few weeks.

October 6,7 - Great Berea Train Show, Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds, 19201 E. Bagley Rd., Middleburg Hts., OH. Hours 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days; Admission: \$8; \$10 both days

October 7 - Beaver-Lawrence Railway Historical Society Fall Train Show, Shenango Twp. VFD Social Hall, 2424 E. Washington St., New Castle, PA, Hours: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Admission: \$5

October 14 - Buffalo Falling Leaves Train Show, Polish Falcons, 4555 Columbia Ave., Depew, NY. Hours: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

October 21 - Autumn in the Southern Tier Train Show, Olean Middle School, 401 Wayne St., Olean, NY. Hours: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

October 28 - Medina Train & Toy Show, 735 Lafayette Rd. (St. Rte 42), Medina, OH. Hours 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Admission: \$6

November 4 - Erie Train Show, Rainbow Gardens, Waldameer Park, Erie, PA. Hours: 10 a.m.

to 4 p.m., Admission: \$5.

November 10,11 - Greenberg's Great Train & Toy Show, Monroeville Convention Center, 209 Mall Blvd., Monroeville, PA. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Admission: Sat. \$10; Sun. \$9
November 14 - Mansfield Train Show, Richland Co.

Fairgrounds, The Fairhaven Hall, 750 Home Rd., Mansfield, OH. Hours: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Admission: \$5

There are a few excursions in the area including the following:

October 3-21 - OC&T RR Fall Foliage Excursions, Wed., Thurs., Fri. - 11 a.m., Sat., Sun. - 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.; First class \$35, Coach \$20, Seniors (ages 60+) \$18.

Nov.24,25 - OC&T RR Santa Claus Train, Perry St. Station, Titusville, PA, 1 p.m.; First class \$40, Coach \$22, Seniors \$20.

Other news

The Youngstown Steel Heritage Foundation is working to buy former Conrail SDP45 #6670, which is sitting at Norfolk Southern's Roanoke, VA yard. The program is called *Extra 3639 North*, which pays respects to the former diesel locomotive magazine, *Extra 2200 South*. The locomotive originally was Erie Lackawanna #3639. It is missing its generator, its air compressor, and traction motors. FCVRRHS members might recognize this locomotive as the same unit the Northwestern

Pennsylvania Railroad & Tooling Heritage Center (now Northwestern Pennsylvania Heritage Partnership) attempted to acquire years ago.

The Norfolk Southern is testing three rebuilt locomotives on the Western New York & Pennsylvania Railroad. The most interesting unit is #8520, a former DC powered unit rebuilt to an AC powered locomotive, model designation AC44C6CF. It is painted gray on the long hood, with black lettering and red and black on the cab with white lettering. It will be hard to miss.

Next Meeting

The next membership meeting is Thursday, October 18, 2018 at 6:30 p.m., in the conference room of the U.S. Bronze Foundry & Machine, Inc., 18649 Brake Shoe Road, Meadville, PA. See you there!

