



The Second Section



July 2017

President Bernie Hanmore called the membership meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. on July 20, 2017 in the conference room of the U.S. Bronze Foundry & Machine, Inc., located at 18649 Brake Shoe Road, Meadville, PA. The meeting was originally scheduled to be at the display site at Pomona Park in Meadville, but had to be moved to the U.S. Bronze on account of a forecast of threatening weather.

Attending the meeting were Bernie Hanmore, Dennis Mead, Ed Cronin, Carl and Vanessa Timko, Bill McComas, Jack Sheets, John Snyder, Stan Niwa, Wayne Brown, Chris Manning, Ron Stafford, Mike Lynch, Stephanie Franz, David Ellis, Jonathon Gable, new member John K. Howell, and guest Bruce Yatzor.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Ed Cronin began the meeting with the monthly financial status of the organization. Balances, income, and expenses were reported. Income was from a donation and membership dues. No sales were reported for this period. Expenses were from the renewal of the membership with the Crawford County Convention and Visitor's Bureau and the yearly rental of the post office box.

Committee Reports Budget / finance

The snowplow project was the point of focus during the meeting. The current situation with Norfolk Southern not donating their services has placed a huge burden on paying for transportation from the interchange at Gangs Mills, New York to Hornell. Ed Cronin said he would talk to Maryann Martin about finding grants for this project.

Chris Manning posted on the organization's Facebook site the Trains Magazine Preservation Award program.

Membership

Ed Cronin reported that 40 members have not renewed their membership as of this date. Members are asked to please renew, as the dues are a major source of income, along with donations and sales. Ed said he would send notices to those who have not renewed as yet. Ed also announced that Dr. Tom Barratt submitted his resignation from the FCVRRHS due to health reasons. Tom is always interesting to listen to while he told of his experiences and interests. We will miss you, Tom. We hope you get to feeling better.

As we say farewell as a member to Doc Barratt, we welcome a new member in John

Howell. John and his wife own the Northern Illinois-Wisconsin Railway Corporation. Also known by the reporting marks of NIWX, John's company leases locomotives. He mentioned that he is talking with the WNYP Railroad about bringing two or three of his locomotives to Meadville, where they would be stationed until they are leased or sold.

Model Railroad

John Snyder and Jack Sheets visited a couple of layouts in Venus, PA, both being G scale. This discussion prompted John to propose setting a date to visit these layouts and set up tours of other layouts. One layout was disassembled last year, that of Shorty Parker's.

Property / Equipment

The Bessemer & Lake Erie Railroad boxcar project continued with a work session on Tuesday. The lettering was completed for the whole car. Roof work continues with Stan Niwa doing most of the work up top. As soon as the remaining boards have been milled by Olan Wood Products, they will be primed and painted then installed on the boxcar. One door is also waiting to be rebuilt.

The foundation for the signal mast has been poured using 14



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bags of concrete and an unknown amount of sand. Jack Sheets brought the water in to mix the ingredients. It was mentioned that new wire will be needed to light up the signal. A suggestion of using low voltage lamps for the signal was made. Dennis Mead reminded the membership that Carl Belke has some three-headed signals that could be available. These are mainly for double track lines.

The status of the snowplow has taken a more expensive turn. An effort was made to contact Norfolk Southern's corporate giving department to find out the status of the transportation of the snowplow. Their representative informed us that NS will not be donating their services to haul the snowplow to interchange with the WNYP. Carl Belke suggested contacting G&W's freight agent to get a quote to move the snowplow. Dennis Mead did contact the freight agent, who said they needed the Standard Transportation Commodity Code for the snowplow, as well as the total weight and height on the flat car, and the duration of the quote. Ed Cronin mentioned a dollar figure of what normal operating costs for a year, and if the cost goes beyond that figure, some other means of funding will have to be found. Dennis Mead said if it comes down to it, consideration of

abandoning the project may have to be made. John Nagurney has prepared a letter to the Redevelopment Authority in regards to renegotiating the contract with them for the leased property and about purchasing the south end property.

Public Relations / Education

The display site will be open to the public soon. The first day will be Sunday, August 6 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. The caboose will be cleaned up before the opening. There have been many visitors to the display site while FCVRRHS crews have been working at the site. We will need volunteers to help with the tours. Keep in mind, the only place the public is permitted is the caboose. The #518 and the boxcar are off limits. We do not want anyone getting hurt.

Special Events / Programs

There are several train shows and events in the area. August 12 is Summerail at the Palace Theater, 276 W. Center St., Marion, OH. This is the second and possibly final year for the event to be in Marion. It is normally at the Cincinnati Union terminal, but that facility is being renovated. Admission to the seminar \$25, admission to the train show only is \$5.

The following weekend,

Everett's 13th Annual Train Show is at Marion Union Station, located at 532 W. Center St., Marion, OH. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The N Scale Weekend at the Jaffa Shrine Center, on the corner of 22nd St. and Broad Avenue, in Altoona, PA is August 19 and 20. The Painesville Railroad Museum, located at 475 Railroad St., Painesville, OH is having a Railroad Memorabilia Show on August 27. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; admission is \$5. This show does have for-show only items as well as items for sale. A "Horn-Honk" is being held in Altoona, PA on September 9. Many people will be blasting their air or electric powered horns, likely to be from locomotives or trucks. It will be held at Horseshoe Curve. Those that are participating will meet at the Degol Depot at 9 a.m. Our own Chris Manning is planning on participating. The Independence Train and Toy Show will be at Elmwood Park, in the Elmwood Recreation Center, on West Pete Wisniewski Parkway (I-480/I-77 Rockside Road exit), Independence, OH on September 30.

The Penn-Ohio Model Railroad Club will have its fall train show at the Sharon VFW on State St. in Sharon/Hermitage, PA on Sunday, September 24. Ted Fisher, the promoter, said the



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show will go on despite his being in the hospital and nursing home since May after his lower right leg had to be amputated. A get-well card was sent to him from the organization.

Next Meeting

The next membership meeting of the FCVRRHS will be on Thursday, August 17, 2017 at 6:30 p.m., at the railroad display site in Pomona Park, Meadville, PA, weather permitting. To access the site, use the Water St. Extension between Mercer St. and Linden St. Attendees are asked to bring their own chairs. See you there!