

4th Division, PNR, NMRA
Board of Directors' Meeting
April 21, 2007
Minutes

Attendees: Walt Huston, Bill Hupé, Sherman Stevens, Jeannie Melvin, Dennis Hill, Norm Curtis, Allen Evans, Susan Evans, Ed Ives, Henry Hollwedel, Eugene Methven.

- I Meeting called to order at 11:30 a.m. by Superintendent Walt Huston.
- II Approve the minutes of the last meeting, which was actually started on Jan. 13 and continued on Feb. 03. The second half was devoted to Trains Trains and more Trains, and a discussion and approval of a budget for the show.

MOTION to accept the minutes of the meetings of Jan.13 and Feb. 03; passed.

- III Treasurer's report—Sherm Stevens.
 - A Handed out budget report for 2006 and 2007, and a Statement of Financial Position. As of April 21, total assets are \$76,969.35. Taxes need to be filed only if we have averaged more than \$25,000 per year for the last five years; we do not meet that criteria. In response to an inquiry, Sherm noted he will start depreciating equipment yearly. This was not done in the past.
 - B The application to the government to become a 501(c)3 non-profit was submitted in September of 2006 and we have not heard from them yet. However, Sherm pointed out that our Constitution may not be acceptable, as it emphasizes fellowship rather than education. At Walt's request, Bill Hupé will review it and present his findings at the next board meeting.

MOTION to accept the Treasurer's report; passed.

- IV Committee reports
 - A Clinic reports
 - 1 Eastside Get-Together—no report.
 - 2 Westside Clinic—Bill Hupé said there will be a swap meet starting at 10 a.m. June 23rd in the Knights of Columbus hall above Poulsbo Pacific Hobbies. They also plan to continue clinics throughout the summer.
 - 3 Tacoma Clinic—Walt Huston reported Tacoma takes a break for the summer and will resume in the fall.
 - 4 Ocean Shores Clinic—no report.
 - 5 Snohomish Rail Fans Clinic—no report.
 - 6 Skagit Valley Clinic—no report.
 - 7 Olympia Clinic—Jim Younkings has been appointed clinic leader by Walt. He will pick a group to assist him in planning and executing clinics.
 - 8 Alaska Section—no report.
 - 9 Seattle North Clinic—no report.
- V Modular Group reports
 - A 4D O Gauge Hi-Railers—Ed Ives said the group will again be showing at the Washington Homeschoolers Organization convention in Puyallup in June. His term as clinic leader is up, but no one has indicated any interest in taking over the job.
 - B 4D HO Modular Special Interest Group (SIG)—Norm Curtis said the layout at the Northend Train Center will be open the next two weekends (April 28 and May 5).

C 4D Ntrak Modular Group—Jeannie Melvin reported that Dave Kreidler, founding father, has retired from the group to pursue competitive model making and other train pursuits. 4D Ntrak issued a challenge to other groups and clinics: the group has at least eight members directly involved in TTmT planning. Can you other groups field half that many?

VI Pacific Science Show

A Money is now in the bank from the show: \$10,036.20. Total attendance was over ten thousand, in spite of the really awful weather.

VII Pacific Northwest Region

A We received a one-time rebate of \$1179.00 from PNR for money received from memberships.

VIII Membership report—Susan Evans, membership chairperson.

A She signed up 13 members at the United Northwest show in Monroe in Feb. She asked for a flyer showing prospective members exactly how their NMRA membership dollars connect them to the 4th Division. She noted that NMRA is still sending out old renewal forms that indicate separate membership in divisions, regions and national are still available. She also asked that any group that has flyers give her a stack to be handed out by whoever is manning the membership display triptych at shows.

Norm asked what happens to the new members who sign up for the show special of a six month Rail Pass. Susan emails Walt with all new names, street and email addresses. He sends a Welcome email to them, and three months later he sends a “How Ya Doin?” email. This encourages them to sign up for yearly membership when the Rail Pass expires and NMRA sends them a membership renewal form. Bill Hupé currently gets membership information from Steve Prevet, VP on PNR. He will forward that to Susan, who will format it and send it to Walt. Bill said he would re-start a program to send postcards at renewal time at Walt’s request.

IX Trains Trains and more Trains

A There is a dire need for volunteers to fill key positions, said Susan. And some of the current volunteers have not grasped the need for them to begin planning NOW. Henry Hollwedel suggested she produce a written business plan, and he said he would meet with her to put it into final form. Jeannie volunteered to help. One of the positions not filled is the Entertainment co-ordinator. At Walt’s suggestion, Susan will contact Gene Swanson about this, and said he would like to get Gene’s banjo group to come to the show.

B Susan would like to have a group of presenters to give a series of clinics that cover how to build a module from planning through framework, track and electrical, and scenery. This will enable someone who wants to attend the whole series to have a module to take home at the end of two days. Walt said he would like all board members, clinic chairs and group leaders to help find volunteers.

C After some discussion about admission charges, they were finalized like this:

- 1 8.00 for each adult;
- 2 a \$1.00 discount coupon to be printable from the Grab Iron;
- 3 \$20.00 for a family (two adults, two children);
- 4 \$4.00 for children 6 to 15;
- 5 No charge for children under 6.
- 6 In addition, each layout will be given two coupons for each 100 sq. ft. of space, based on the information given to Allen Evans, who is doing the space planning.
- 7 The admission is good for the entire show.

MOTION to accept the admission charges as described; passed.

X. Jeannie Melvin asked for permission to take the old computer equipment owned by 4D to the recycler, and for reimbursement of costs therefrom.

MOTION to adjourn; passed.

XI. Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Melvin, Secretary