

MINUTES
Board of Directors' Meeting
4th Division, PNR, NMRA
October 31, 2009

Attendees: Sherman Stevens, Treas., James Byerley, Asst. Supt., Ed Liesse, Ken Liesse, Rob Jones, Ethan (Stu) Rogers, Frank Dekker, Jeannie Melvin, Secy., Dennis Hill, Supt., J.J. Johnston, Clay Hanson, Ed Ives.

The meeting was called to order at 1 p.m. by Supt. Dennis Hill. He recognized the newly-elected board members, Al Lowe and Stu Rogers and the re-elected Asst. Supt. Jim Byerley and thanked them for stepping forward to join the ranks of the existing board members JJ Johnston and Dennis Hill.

The minutes from the last meeting were not received by email by the board, so Supt. Dennis read them aloud. They were amended with regard to New Business, PNR 2010 Convention Committee at Sherman Stevens' request. The revision reads as follows: "Treasurer Sherman Stevens will create a separate checking account at the Kingsgate branch of Chase Bank for "Cascadian International, the 2010 regional convention, sponsored by the 4th Division (4D) of the Pacific Northwest Region (PNR) of the National Model Railroad Assoc. (NMRA)." A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes as amended. MOTION CARRIED.

The final 2010 Budget was passed out by Sherm. It will be presented to the membership at the Eastside Clinic to be voted on by the general membership. Notices will be in the Grab Iron and Dennis will email the membership as well.

Old Business

Cascadian Int'l, the 2010 PNR regional convention, will be held in Lynnwood, WA. Stu Rogers, convention chairman, presented the proposal and budget request to the PNR convention in Edmonton, AB, CAN and it was accepted. He also said we will accept Canadian currency at par for registration. The registration will be \$45.00, and a registration form will be created and inserted in the Grab Iron and the Switchlist. The convention will start on Wed, Sept. 15 with an all-day board meeting. Thurs., Fri., and Sat. will be devoted to the actual convention, with the general membership meeting to be held on Fri. morning.

Frank Dekker, co-chairman of the Pacific Science Center (PSC) show for 2010 said we have building four and part of building three for the show. He pointed out the need to keep improving the show so the PSC continues to want us back in spite of their reduced budget. Rob Jones has volunteered to assist Frank and Jeff Moorman, co-chairman, to learn the ropes. Kids' Activities needs volunteers for make-and-take. Jeannie Melvin said she would organize a tree making activity and run it on Sat. Frank will let the clinic leaders know of the show's need for volunteers, and will have an appeal published in the Grab Iron.

The treasurer's report evoked no comments. A motion was made and seconded to accept the report. MOTION CARRIED.

Stu reports organizational work on the video library is progressing.

Modular Group reports started with Ed Ives reporting for the Hi-Railers, who got the Peoples' choice award at the Lynden WA show. They are going to be at Portland, OR and Puyallup, WA before this year.

The 4D NTrak group said they will be at the Puyallup show, the World's Greatest Hobby (WGH) and will also be showing the layout at the Tacoma history museum for a week after Christmas.

Dennis noted that at the regional board meeting in Edmonton, AB, the policy for Visitors and Guests (policy 08.01) was made effective. The policy reads in part, "Each Division Superintendent shall prepare, publish, and enforce particular guidelines regarding visitors and guests at NMRA-sponsored function and activities in their Divisions...not more than three visits should be allowed in a non-member status." Also, Dennis will make the provisions known to any NMRA member serving as host to a guest or visitor, to each chairman or leader of an established clinic, and to the officers of any "all NMRA member" club. The reason for this policy is that NMRA insurance covers accidents to members at NMRA sponsored events, but not to visitors and guests. If we are in violation of the insurance company policies, they will cancel the insurance.

Ken Liesse pointed out that the Fircrest Show is not an NMRA sponsored event, and as such should not be published on the calendar in the Grab Iron.

At this time there was a ten minute break.

After the break, a Spring Meet was discussed: what to include in activities, should it be one or two days, etc. It was generally agreed that about four clinics should be presented, lunch should be included, a modeling contest should be held, and it will only be one day. Dennis will investigate further.

We need someone to be in charge of the Membership display triptych, getting it to various events and getting volunteers to tell the public about the advantages of membership in the NMRA. He particularly wants someone at the Boeing Club Swap Meet in Nov. He will also get Mike Slease to have more membership brochures printed up for the events of the last of 2009 and the first of 2010.

Dennis said it is very important if ANY changes are made to a member's contact information, they should be reported at once to Ed or Gay Liesse, the office managers. They will forward that information to National. This includes changes in zip code, phone number, area code, email address, street address, and name. Ken asked if we could get Al Lowe to publish an online link with a form that could be forwarded directly to the Liesses. Dennis will check.

Candidates for next year's board of directors' election should be thinking about making their availability known now. JJ said he will run again; Dennis's term is up also. And the PNR also needs a president and vice president for next year.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. MOTION CARRIED. The meeting was adjourned at 3:28 p.m. The next meeting will be on Feb. 20, 2010.

Respectfully submitted,
Jean Melvin, secretary, 4th Division