

Quarterly Meeting Paper Valley Model Railroad Club July 16, 2009

Meeting called to order 7:27 p.m. by President Brian Jacobs.

Attendance-

Brian Jacobs, Paul Hillmer, Sandy Bloom, Don Coonen, Grant Armstrong, Dennis Frederick, Kevin Giebel, Jerry Huth, Wally Kiefer, Jim Leschke, Les Manske, Mike McDermott, Stan Mermall, Bill Moede, Ken Nieland, Mark Nieland, Marty Porto, Jim Vidas, Craig Volkman, Dave Wiley, Mike Daniels, Jim Reinke, Rich Tegge, Scott Parkinson, Robert Stevenson, Steve Belcher.

The minutes from the April 16, 2009 meeting, although not read, were motioned, seconded, and accepted/carried.

The Treasurer's Report submitted by Don Coonen were read and accepted (see attached Addendum in Word Format).

Old Business:

501.C3 news:

Mike McDermott volunteered 5 eight-hour days working at the National Railroad Train Museum. Kevin Giebel volunteered his services in Clintonville, Sheboygan Falls, Weyauwega, and Milwaukee. Dennis Frederick taught a decal seminar. Paul Hillmer attended the spring meeting of the NMRA. Bill Moede has offered Boy Scout Troop 57 an opportunity to earn a merit badge at the club.

Website update:

Rich Tegge reported that the Geocities hosting will be shutting down by October 26, 2009. Sandy Bloom complained that the many digital pictures he and Dave Wiley took of the club's layouts have not appeared on the existing website. It was decided that the old website arrangement was inadequate for the club's needs. Grant Armstrong moved that the club purchase a commercial website including our own domain and hosting site. Don Coonen seconded this motion, and the motion

carried. Mike Phalen will be informed of this change to permit an easy transition to the new website.

HO News:

Wally Kiefer reported that the Appleton update is coming along nicely. It was also reported that the Soundtrack Tsunami Booster has been installed. In addition, the club just purchased the Digitrax PR3.

O Scale News:

Stan Mermall reported that the Hudson engine has been repaired and is now smoking properly. A Lionel magnetic gantry crane has been purchased and will be located in the forthcoming intermodal area on the layout. All O scale users are again reminded to clean up the area after usage.

New Business:

The club will not be holding its fall swap meet because the armory is being remodeled and will not be available. Jim Leschke has sent letters to all vendors telling them of the cancellation of the swap meet. It was decided that it would probably not be a good idea to look for a different location for the fall swap meet, as the cost is likely to exceed that of the armory, which would practically guarantee a financial loss. The spring swap meet is scheduled for March 13, 2010 at the armory. Also, the Thanksgiving open house at the club will be the Friday and Saturday immediately after Thanksgiving between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. The swap meet and open house information will be placed on the website.

New Members:

Robert Stevenson and Matt Jorgensen were unanimously accepted as members of the club. They have both been doing fine work.

Brian Jacobs issues:

Wally and Brian will be cleaning up the workroom as it has become very dirty. All members are hereby informed that no eating shall be allowed behind the layouts. Brian, after approval by club members, will be purchasing two quality Center Line tank-cleaning cars for the HO layout.

Brian began a long discussion regarding more recent occurrences of damage to club members' private engines and cars. It is believed that the damage is likely to

be caused by nonmembers and children who are not adequately supervised by club members. At least nine complaints to this effect have been brought to Brian's attention, with four members considering leaving the club if nothing substantial is done about this problem. Other complaints have included children behind the layouts, who have pushed members out of the way, food and food containers left behind the layout, probably by children, and damaged cars being left in the office with no detailed explanation or indication of who was responsible for the damage. After seriously considering different proposals to solve this problem, it was decided that Jim Vidas will write up a draft of a code of conduct and letter of warning for all members to sign, which will have consequences for offending members. This draft will be brought to Brian Jacobs who will disseminate this to the board and club members for review. Brian will also be checking the exact wording of the applicable bylaws. It was made clear that there shall be no eating behind the layouts by anyone, nonmembers shall not be allowed to operate trains or be behind the layouts unsupervised, and that club members are responsible for supervising nonmembers who wish to operate trains. The supervising members will be responsible for all damages incurred by the nonmembers for which they are responsible. All members will complete the existing forms in the office giving necessary details regarding damages to equipment. Club members are urged to be very vigilant in supervising nonmembers at all times. This last statement will be repeated at quarterly club meetings to ensure compliance.

Anyone wishing to supervise a nonmember operating the O scale layout must first speak with Stan Mermall (phone: 312 - 2977).

The club highly values bringing children into the hobby and encouraging their interest. It is hoped that the above-mentioned proposals will evolve and further our dedication to children and our hobby.

Operating Nights:

It was unanimously decided that any member may request an operating night using mass e-mail and informing Rich Tegge so he can place this on the website. Structured operating nights, as suggested by Grant Armstrong, will occur as follows:

For the first quarter of the year the operating night will be the first Friday of the month. For the second quarter of the year the operating night will be the second Friday of the month. For the third quarter of the year the operating night will be the third Friday of the month. And, similarly, for the fourth quarter of the year the operating night will be the fourth Friday of the month.

There being no further business, Brian Jacobs adjourned the meeting at 9:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Bloom

Secretary

July 17, 2009