

NMRA PCR Board Meeting

PACIFIC COAST REGION OF THE NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION

A California Nonprofit Corporation
Board of Directors Meeting
Saturday October 8, 2022 1:00 PM
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

The meeting was called to order at 1:01 AM by President Frank Markovich.

Officers and directors present:

Frank Markovich MMR, President
Chip Meriam, Vice President
Phil Edholm, Coast Director
Walter Mizuno, Daylight Director
Giuseppe Aymar, MMR, RED Director
The Secretary declared a quorum had been achieved.

Others present were Denni Baumer, Mike O'Dorney, Dave Grenier,
Bob Osborne, Mark Poggendorf, Pete Birdsong, Dave Putnam,
Bob Ferguson, Lou Anderson

Adoption of Agenda – The agenda was adopted without modification.

Approval of Minutes – A motion from Chip Meriam and a second from Walter Mizuno to approve the minutes of the previous meeting, April 21, 2022

Treasurer's Report The Treasurer's Report was previously distributed to the Board Members. Treasurer, Bob Osborn, noted there is one outstanding check (NMRA) from August 12, 2022, but arriving after September 1 to record in the next revenue period. (Will be revised).
Convention revenue \$1500, Sig Meet \$1000

In Summary:

As of Sep 30, Total Assets \$77754.33 Total Liabilities and Equity \$77754.33

For the period April thru Sep 2022 Ordinary Income 4612.34. Total Expenses \$985.20

Investment Income \$200.00

Net Income for Period \$3827.14

Officers' Reports

President, Frank Markovich – The President's written report was previously distributed to officers, directors, and committee chairs.

Vice President - Managed to get two special events listed in the Branch Line Newsletter, even though close to publishing date.

Directors' Reports

Daylight Division, Walt Mizuno – Report previously sent. Two meetings held. Mike O'Brien passed away, and everyone pitched in to help. (Mike O'Brien held Zoom license, but others helped with Zoom)

Coast Division, Phil Edholm. Auction held in May

In August, meeting held at Golden State in Point Richmond. Also Lunch and 5 Layout tours afterward.

In September, South Bay Historical Railroad Society was the location. Four Clinics (two broadcast) held and Layout tours.

Auction in December.

Many Saturday morning Zoom meetings and clinics.

Sierra Division, Lou Anderson - meetings alternate (live and Zoom) every other month. Also plan on International Rail Fair - October 21-23. Dave Putnam likely new superintendent.

RED Division, had picnic at Roots of Power Museum. Next meeting November. Denni Baumer reported Convention went well, and convention reports are being standardized.

Convention: Denni Baumer reported convention went well despite Covid - based cancellations. One challenge was that there were no layout tours on Saturday, leaving the sawmill as the only activity. Something to work on in future conventions. Discussed with Earl Girbovan for 2024 convention (Concord, maybe). Upgrading convention manual. Working on consistent reporting. Denni's report is excellent.

Many want a convention to start Thursday or Friday and extend into Sunday, for working people. Lower cost meals (lunches and breakfasts) for awards, instead of the banquets, which have gotten expensive. Concord convention is looking at \$12,600 (but 80 % may be OK) food and beverage minimum. Phil, Earl Girbovan, Denni to meet and negotiate with the hotel.

Dave Putnam and Chip Meriam, 2023 convention chairs, reported on the progress with the convention in Sacramento. A combined/hybrid convention is planned, with some clinics being webcast, as well as live. Layouts are arranged. Clinics are coming well. Lou Anderson is a good contact near the hotel. Cost of hybrid (zoom call) will be set soon.

The convention is a joint partnership with the Feather River Rail Society (Western Pacific) but there is no marketing on their website.

Elections

The next election cycle (an odd year) is for the president and vice president.
Frank to talk to Dave Connery about elections.

Storekeeper - Mark Poggendorf

Storekeeper is keeping track of items, primarily audio visual equipment, Everything is back. Also looking at our display of convention cars. With estate sales coming up, we need to be looking for missing years. Working with Giuseppe.

Some convention hotels have specific audio visual requirements - we may not be able to use our own equipment.

Denni Baumer has a good method for presentations. Also projector support package. Clinics submitted in advance, and thumb drives made it smooth. Be alert for copyright - keep slides within convention. Or contact clinicians.

New Business

1. Split money from NMRA national convention
2. Public venues - shows and hobby stores

How do we get the attention of potential new members?

Need an NMRA event right after the train show - within two weeks or so.

Committee formed of Phil Edholm, Dave Putnam, Mark Poggendorf, Lou Anderson and Walter Mizuno

Money - \$8520.74 split seven ways
\$2520.74 for recruitment committee
\$1000 for convention reserve fund
\$1000 for Region headquarters
\$1000 for Coast Division
\$1000 for Daylight Division
\$1000 for RED Division
\$1000 for Sierra Division

Motion moved by Phil Edholm, seconded by Chip Meriam and passed

Estate appraisal and estimation - establish experts in each scale (O, S, HO, etc.) and sub-scale (On3, HOn30, etc.) - a new position. A directory of appraisers.

Club liaison - encourage clubs to be 100% NMRA. Integrate with recruiting committee.

Conventions

Hybrid meetings - - pass for now and for future discussion.

Fixed location for multiple conventions - the same venue for 5 (or so) conventions. No good solution for layout tours - same ones every year. But the idea gives some flexibility. Likely in Sierra division geography.

Possibly every other year (like Coast did a few years back).

Permanent committee, but with boots on the ground

Possible convention sites - Hawaii, Reno

Possible remote clinicians (Zoom).

Lou and Chip and Denni - committee on various convention formats.

Denni has experience with hotel contracts, RFP's etc. She should be point person.

Amend By-laws (Article 4 Section 5) to reduce Quorum from 35 to 25
Region membership has declined from 1500 to 800.

May need to renew Election Buddy software.

May want to hold Zoom meetings at 10 AM. Face to face meetings still at 1 PM.

Zoom cost going up. Possible \$300 per year.

There is discussion of a new museum near the present train museum. This museum would hold the model railroading exhibits. Cost to NMRA about \$2 million.

Chris Palermo (At Large North America Director) has proposed a meeting regarding dues.

A motion to adjourn was moved by Chip Meriam and seconded by Walter Mizuno.
Adjournment Approved 2:19 PM October 8, 2022