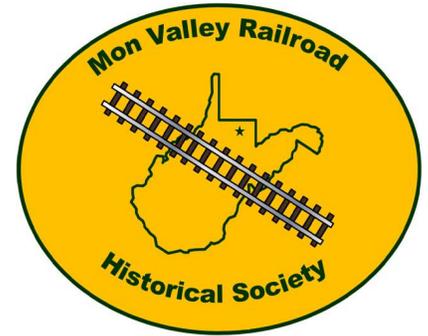


TRAIN OF THOUGHT

MON VALLEY RAILROAD HISTORICAL SOCIETY, Inc.

February, 2020



EDITORS NOTE

It's February, Valentines Day is just around the bend, try to do something special for that special one in your life.

And, February is special for all of us at the Mon Valley Railroad Historical Society. At this business meeting we must approve the budget for the year 2020 and our goals. The proposed "Goals" for this year are located the BOD Minutes in this newsletter. A copy of the proposed budget has been sent to all members so that you may look it over before the meeting. Please bring a copy with you and any questions about the budget and the goals that you may have in mind.

Work continues on the Main layout and the Modular layout. Come on down and see what we are doing, help out, get your hands dirty and enjoy yourself. Remember, we are all part of the World's Greatest Hobby and it is our duty to help keep it alive!

Happy Training,

Rich Henderson, Editor



Minutes of the January 2, 2020 Business Meeting

The January 2020 meeting was called to order by Treasurer, Keith DeVault in the absence of President Lou Lemelle and Vice President, Ward Paine at 7:32 with two (2) officers and 8 members. Membership Director, Rich Henderson took the minutes in the absence of Secretary, Greg Malnikoff. December Business Meeting minutes were approved with minor typographical errors by a motion from Rich and second by Gary followed by a unanimous vote.

Treasurer's Report: Keith gave the Treasurer's Report, we are in the Black. Approved by vote after a motion by Eric Hopkins and second by Frank Benders.

Modules: Mike will be making a proposal to the Board of Directors at the January Board meeting. It would entail placing "3" of the new modules in the modular layout. More details to follow.

Main Layout: The layout run good at the OP Session. Gary had to resolder a switch on Wilson's Mills, after that no problems.

Meeting Minutes continued on Page 2

SCHEDULE of EVENTS

**February 6, 2020
Business Meeting**

**March 5, 2020
Business Meeting**

**Spring Open House
March or April, 2020 ??**

**April 2, 2020
Business Meeting**

**May 7, 2020
Business Meeting**

**June 4, 2020
Business Meeting**

**July 2, 2020
Business Meeting**

**August 6, 2020
Business Meeting**



Minutes continued from Page 1

Publicity: FaceBook has 586 Likes and 605 Following and 24 Check-ins last week. Two people donated money through our facebook page. See Donations below.

Ad Cars: Johnson Law and Appalachian Prison Book Program renewed their ad cars. That makes 5 or 6.

Membership: No new members.
Dues for 2020 are now Due.
Please try to pay before March because we also have elections this Spring and if you are not paid you can not run for office or vote.

Donations: Facebook - Carol Minor Wilson \$5. Draw Paine had a Birthday fundraiser for us, total \$160. During the Open House Gregory Malnikoff brought in a Bachmann On30 passenger set almost new in the box. Greg donated it for our next fund-raiser. Rich brought in a Lionel New Haven passenger set for the fundraiser. We need one more item, some books and/or DVD's, etc. Rich added that facebook has changed the way they disburse monies. Facebook has lowered the amount from 200 to 150 and has dropped the 5% fees for Non-Profit organizations.

Old Business: The Holiday Open House went very well, lots of visitor and some new ones. Seems like every year we get new visitors that didn't know we have been around for over 30 years! We had lots of positive comments and lots of questions. Thanks to all the members who helped make this event a success. Winners of the Chinese Auction were: Heather Wilson - FAO Schwartz train set, Mike Jacques -Blanket, pillow, Books & DVD's and Brady Shackle-Virginian Trainmaster & caboose. Eric Hopkins reported that the event at the SPARK Imagination &

Science Center at the Mountaineer Mall on December 14th went well, especially in the morning. Lots of Kids ran the "Switching Layout" and seemed to have a lot of fun. Eric Hopkins said that at least one bolt on the rear drivers on #219 keeps coming loose. Loctite was used on the bolts, hopefully this will help, however members should check to make sure the bolts are tight before taking the loco out for a run. There is a small wrench available to tighten the bolt if needed. Bill Hudak added that the loco had a problem going up the hill, he thought it was the controller but was not. He tilted the loco over and broke the electrical contact with the rails, it ran fine the rest of the day. Keith is still working with the IRS. They sent him forms to fill out, which he did and sent them in. We received the forms back saying they were the wrong forms. Keith will go online and get the right forms that the IRS says we need. He will fill them out and re-send them to the IRS. We do not owe any money, it was a Scam and the IRS is still investigating the matter. Mike asked about the website update. He said Gregory & Alex were down and taking lots of pictures. Rich said that the website has picture files on the first page of current events from 2019 back to 2015, the second page has older events. Member layouts need to be up-dated by those members sending new photos to Eric Hansmann with new information. The main layout "Tour" will take more time. Eric Hansmann needs good clear photos to replace the ones currently on the website and we need to send him updated text to go with them. Rich sent him pictures from the Holiday Open House to post. Dave Edwards said the model railroad at the Mountaineer Mall is now up and running. He had to rewire the power supplies to slow the trains down to keep them from running too fast and derailing.

Every time he has been there working on the layout many children and parents have been hanging around asking when it would be running. A contract will be signed with the Mall giving us a percentage of the profits in exchange for our help getting it running and maintaining the layout. Dave will put a sign up on the layout or near it letting people know about our society.

New Business: The annual Board of Directors/Officers meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, January 16, 2020 by President Lou Lemelle. The time will be 7:00pm at the Society's clubhouse. Officers will discuss finances, set a budget and set goals for the Society. Mike Hohn has been invited to speak about the new modules. ANY member may attend and listen in on the BOD's deliberations, but may not speak unless asked to by the officers. Keith suggested that we invite all members to attend. Mike asked about a "Question & Answer/Comment session" afterwards. Rich said he didn't know if that was allowed for in the Society Constitution & Bylaws, so he checked as the meeting continued. Rich later reported that there is nothing in the constitution about a comment session, so members can ask questions & comment at the end of the BOD meeting.

Dave Edwards has put in new "feeder" electrical lines behind the wall. This will connect the two new outlets on the wall with 20 amp circuit breakers instead of the current 15 amp ones. This will bring them up to code.

For the Good of the Order: Eric Hopkins said the Grand Central Train Show is this weekend in Elizabeth, PA. Timonium, MD Train Show is on February 1, 2020. Several members will be attending depending on the weather.

Motion to adjourn by many.
The meeting adjourned at 8:12 pm.
Rich Henderson for
Greg Malnikoff, Secretary

Board of Directors Meeting January 16, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 1901 by President Lou Lemelle. In attendance were:

Lou Lemelle: President
Gary Deavers: Immediate Past President
Keith DeVault: Treasurer
Rich Henderson: Membership Director
Greg Malnikoff: Secretary
Michael Hohn - present at the request of the Board

The budget was discussed at length and approved. A detailed version of the budget will be available to the membership at the regularly scheduled Business Meeting in February.

Modular Layout and Goals

Michael Hohn presented to the Board the following suggestions.

1. Three of the new modules to be incorporated in the existing Modular Layout.
2. At a minimum a "Crossover" and the Rowlesburg Depot to be added.
3. Once the three new Modules are placed into the present modular and all other work stored within the center of the Modular, there will be increased space on the side closest to the wall. Mike

recommended the Modular be moved back a few feet to take advantage of the space and pull the Modular away from the structural support column.

A motion to adopt these proposals to the 2020 goals was made by Keith with a second by Gary. The motion was approved by vote.

2020 Society Goals

1. Upon completion of the work being performed on far wall near Gary's desk, we are to move the Modular Apron storage rack to behind the wall.
2. Post new pictures for the Layout Tour on our website. Work to commence in April.
3. Encourage members who already have pictures on the website to provide newer or updated pictures. New members are encouraged to submit photos of their home layout. All pictures can be submitted directly to Eric Hansmann or through Rich to Eric.
4. Continue to collect additional Railroad items/ memorabilia to display around the Society.
5. Continue enhancement of the Main Layout through contributions and improvements to scenery and begin work to locations along the line that have yet to receive attention.

6. Remain committed to the transition of lighting from the old to LED lighting.

Gary moved we present the Goals and Budget to the general membership at the next scheduled Business Meeting in February. Rich seconded the motion which was approved.

Rich motioned for adjournment which was seconded by Keith. Motion was so carried.,

The meeting adjourned at 1948.



ARTICLES WANTED

Space is available for members to write an article for the newsletter. It may be about your model railroad, a new model you just built or acquired, a railfan trip you recently took or about any railroad related topic. Just type it up and send it to: Rich Henderson, Editor at: trainman430@comcast.net
Please allow two (2) weeks before the next newsletter is published.



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