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**7<sup>th</sup> Division PNR/NMRA Annual General Meeting 2016  
Held during the Railway Modellers Meet at the Atrium  
Inn, Vancouver BC on Saturday November 5, 2016 from  
1530 to 1630 Hours.**

## Minutes

### Call To Order

Superintendent John Martin called the meeting to order at 1540 hours in the Breakfast Room of the Atrium Inn, 2889 East Hastings Street, Vancouver BC. 24 members, including 5 Executive members signed in. Also included in the membership count was one member guest from the PSR Region.

### 2016 Agenda

Motion to accept by Emil Ferry, Seconded by Randy Nussli. – Carried.

### Minutes From 2015 AGM

Motion to accept by Russ Watson, Seconded by Randy Nussli. – Carried.

### Old Business Arising From The 2015 AGM Minutes

- **Bill Hewlett Collection/slide scanning project.** After several years, the project has been completed. Bill Galovich, with the assistance of Mike Chandler handled the scanning and Brian Clogg has posted them on the website.

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### Old Business Arising From The 2015 AGM minutes – Continued

- **Jim Ferrier Collection update.** A meeting took place today (Nov. 5 2016) with Scott Calvert, Doug Mayer and a gentlemen from the Calgary CP group. Cataloguing this collection will continue. Roger Behn on behalf of his local museum asked if a list of the contents of the collection will be made available. As it consists of over a thousand drawings, some of which are physically very large to handle, this project will be continuing for some time and will not be meaningful until then.

- **DVD Collection disposal.** After a short discussion, it was decided that they should be offered for sale by donation. Motion to sell by Randy Nussli. Seconded by Scott Calvert. – Carried.

- **Selkirk Express 2016 wrap up.** Full report is available – see **Addendum 1.** Formal motion of thanks to David Walker and his volunteers made by Rene Gourley. Seconded by Roger Behn. – Carried.

### New Business

- **Electronic Elections.** Due to a pending threat of a postal strike during the PNR elections, it was decided, that as an experiment, we in the 7<sup>th</sup> Division would offer the choice of casting votes by mail or email. About equal quantity of votes were cast by the two methods and the experiment was deemed successful. Due to increasing costs of holding elections by mail, it has been decided to switch to email voting. However, members will still have the option of voting by postal mail should they desire. Our PSR guest Pete Steinmiz pointed out that the US experience was that electronic voting increases voter response. We should talk to Ben Sevier who is the NMRA I.T. Chair. Moving to electronic elections will require us to make amendments to our Constitution.

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## New Business - Continued

- **The New British Columbia Societies Act.** Ken Rutherford has volunteered to process the new requirements with the assistance of Steve Stark. Hopefully this will be completed by the next AGM.

- **2016 Election Results and Voting.** The 7th Division Returning officer declared the three candidates elected by Acclimation. They are as follows:

Larry Sebelley – Treasurer

Ken Rutherford – Director at Large

Jim Guillaume – Secretary

- **Railway Modellers Meet.** As the modellers meet is still underway, Rene Gourley was only able to give a preliminary report on this. They had 96 Registrants, which is believed to be above the breakeven point. There have been very few complaints and Rene so far believes it to be a very positive show. John Martin stated that starting next year the Modellers Meet and the Train Show would be completely separated. It is hoped that by holding the events on different times of the year, that this would improve the situation of attracting volunteers to run each show. However, this could cause problems of attracting out of town members. Rene is planning to be very proactive in surveying what people liked or didn't like about this meet and will do it again after the next meet, planned for next May. At that time, it is expected that we will then have a very good indication of how the members feel about separating the shows. John Martin wished to extend a formal vote of thanks to the Committee of the RRM of BC – Rene Gourley, Larry Sebelley, Brian Clogg, Mark Dance, Scott Calvert, Rob Kirkham, Lori Sebelley, Doug Mayer, Marc Simpson and John Green.

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### New Business – Continued

- **Vancouver Train Expo.** As a result of a question asked during the discussion of the Railway Modellers Meet, Superintendent John Martin, decided that another subject would be added to the Agenda. Mike Chandler wanted to know what the relationship between the VTE and the 7<sup>th</sup> Division was. As well, he wished to know what happened to the start-up money that the 7<sup>th</sup> Division advanced to the new VTE Committee that took over the Train Show in 2013. This was in excess of \$5000.

John stated that he had looked into this and found that the Vancouver Train Expo was not a registered entity and was operating as the 7<sup>th</sup> Division. Further he determined since the Train show had moved to the PNE Forum, the annual operating budget had increased to approximately \$40,000., which far exceeds the financial resources of the 7<sup>th</sup> Division, and creates a problem should the show fail. The membership would be responsible for this debt. Furthermore, the committee that organises and runs the show has been losing volunteers. They are now at the point that unless new help is found, the show will be unable to continue next year. Since moving to the Forum the Train Show has grown and doubled in attendance and is our leading way to attract new members. John stated that perhaps the VTE show could one day rival that of the Calgary Show and become a source of funding for the 7th Division. But first the VTE has to be registered as its own entity under the BC Societies Act. Then volunteers have to be found to help run the show. Or should the show follow the example of the Calgary Train Show and have the local Train Clubs run it? Or is there another option? As to the start-up money advanced to the new committee, it is still there, providing advance funding to put on the VTE every year. The funds are acknowledged and have since grown with the new committee.

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### New Business – Continued

- **Treasurer's Report.** Treasurer Larry Sebelley reported that the 7<sup>th</sup> Division Annual Financial report had not been produced yet because of the timing of the AGM. The yearend bank statements had not been received with enough time to produce it. However the full report will be available on our website. Also see **Addendum 2**. However he was able to report that as of October 31, 2016, the total of all the bank balances was \$18931.00. In addition to that he reported the receipt of a \$250.00 cheque today from the Victoria Train Show. At that point Ken Rutherford presented Larry with a \$500.00 cheque from the Nanaimo Train Show. Ken stated that made the all-time donation from Nanaimo to total \$10159.00. Round of applause given.

- **Local Clinics.** Ken Rutherford has for several years, been promoting the concept of holding regular local clinics. The idea came from the clinics held successfully, many years ago in Oakridge. He feels they would help us get to know more of our members, as well as giving them more value for their membership. PNR President, Jack Hamilton, spoke this year at the meeting in Salmon Arm, about not just promoting new members, but doing more to retain members. These meetings would give members the opportunity to learn more about the hobby and through us getting to know them, the ability to engage them in our projects. A discussion followed by those attending about possibilities to get this project underway. Our visitor from San Diego mentioned that they have quarterly meetings as well as monthly layout tours. It was suggested that local Area Representatives should have the responsibility to organise these for their area. Email lists are available from Brian Clogg to contact local members. As well, small amount of organising expense money is available, if preapproved by the Executive.

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### **Elected Executive, Appointed Position, And Area Representitive Reports**

Due to time restraints from a shorter time available for the AGM, the normal verbal reporting and ensuing discussions will not be done this year. However reports were requested from these positions, which have been posted on our website. They also can be found in the attached Addendums.

### **Thanks**

The Superintendent acknowledged the many years of service provided by outgoing Secretary Bob Leggett and thanked him on behalf of the 7<sup>th</sup> Division for a job well done. All in attendance applauded Bob's excellent work for our Division.

The Superintendent thanked Russ Watson for his four years of service as Superintendent and in particular, his authoring of our Policy Manual – an invaluable addition to the Division. Again, all in attendance expressed their appreciation.

### **Summation**

Superintendent, John Martin concluded the meeting by thanking all for their excellent reports and asked everyone to take a few minutes to read them. They can be found on our website, as well as in the Addendums included with these Minutes. In particular, he drew our attention to his Superintendent's report, in which he thanked all the volunteers that made up the Executive, the Appointed Positions and the Area Representatives. He reminded all that without the excellent work of these people, the 7<sup>TH</sup> Division could not exist.

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### **Summation Continued**

**Secretary's Note** – The next AGM has been tentatively scheduled for the evening of November 11, 2017 following day one of the Vancouver Train Expo. The exact time and place to be posted in the Bulletin Board and elsewhere.

### **Adjournment**

Motion to Adjourn – Emil Ferry at 1640 hours.

### **Respectfully Submitted**

Bob Leggett

7<sup>th</sup> Division Secretary 2010 - 2016