

AGM 2018 Minutes

**7th Division, Pacific Northwest Region, National Model Railroad Association
Annual General Meeting - held Saturday November 10, 2018.**

Call to Order

Superintendent John Martin called the meeting to order at 19:30 hours at the Atrium Inn, 2889 East Hastings Street, Vancouver B.C. A total of 31 members, including 4 executive members signed in, with Ass't. Superintendent Dan Rowsell sending his regrets.

Approve the 2018 Agenda

Motion to approve the Agenda by Jim Guillaume. CARRIED

Minutes from 2017 AGM

Motion to accept by Emil Ferry. CARRIED

Discussion: the individual executive and Chairperson's reports are posted on-line in the 7th Div. PNR website and are available to review, thereby precluding the necessity to read or print the reports for the AGM attendees. Copy of all reports were available from the Secretary at the annual meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Larry Sebelley summarized and presented his written financial report for the year ending Dec. 31, 2017.

See Addendum below for full report.

Motion: Due to the PNR failing to send us the membership funding owed to the 7th Division for the past two fiscal years, it is hereby moved by Ken Rutherford that the 7th Division Treasurer invoice the PNR for the amount outstanding.
CARRIED

Discussion: (Superintendent Notes) There is a new PNR treasurer that has taken over recently and the unpaid funding matter was brought forward at a recent PNR Board of Directors meeting. We have received assurance from NMRA Canada Vice-President Ed Molenkamp that it will be paid.

Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report by Emil Ferry. CARRIED

Old Business Arising From the 2017 AGM Minutes

1. **Jim Ferrier Collection:** Doug Mayer summarized his published report that the collection is secure in a CPR station location adjacent to the Revelstoke Railway Museum as previously reported last year. The collection isn't currently being worked on though. Mr. Mayer indicates that the collection is approximately 50% catalogued, but there is a lot of work to be done to determine what is in the vast number of storage tubes as a lot of the remaining collection is mislabelled or has multiple items in each tube. To date, none of the collection has been scanned. He needs help in this work and welcomes any assistance toward that end. Please email him to set up a mutually agreeable schedule. He also reports that the City of Revelstoke Archives have recently purchased a Large Format scanner that may be available to the Revelstoke Railway Museum in the future plus the Nakusp Museum has just purchased a Roll Scanner.
2. **DVD Collection:** The collection is still in the hands of the Superintendent and the board would like to proceed with an auction process. A listing of the contents of the collection and an auction date will be published in an upcoming issue of the Bulletin Board.
3. **Constitution and Bylaws:** Superintendent John Martin made a motion to express the 7th Division's thanks to Ken Rutherford and Steve Stark for all the project work they did to bring the Constitution and Bylaws into conformance with new provincial government regulations. We are an accredited Society as outlined in the current Act at this time. CARRIED
4. **Insurance Coverage:** The Superintendent reports that this is an ongoing concern. The NMRA, headquartered in the United States, claims to insure Canadians for \$1 million of liability coverage with optional coverage for \$2 million and \$5 million. There is a \$50 charge for each certificate issued for each venue covered under optional coverage. Superintendent Martin enquired as to whether there has ever been a claim made in Canada and he

received advice from the NMRA Insurance Chairman to leave it alone as everything is under control. Two British Columbia based insurance brokers have expressed doubts about the 7th Division's ability to pursue legal issues with a US based insurer if circumstances arise and both brokers believe any injurer party in Canada would seek redress here in this country. Currently most local shows have chosen to purchase their own insurance outside the NMRA. Revisit this item in 2019.

5. **Local Clinic & Mini-Meets:** The Superintendent reported that there have been events on the North Shore, Fraser Valley, and Northern B.C. (Spring and Fall events). The Courtenay / Comox members (part of the North Island group) have held 4 Saturday morning events under the guidance of Dwight Kayto recently. That group has built TT type modules during that period and new members to the NMRA were signed up. There are 141 members in the lower mainland and over 200 outside of the lower mainland. Plans are underway to hold additional events in the new year in various sub-divisions.

Elected Director and Standing Committee Chair Reports:

1. **Secretary's Report:** Jim Guillaume summarized and presented his written report of the items that have been worked on during 2018 and these are available on-line.
 - **Constitution and Bylaws:** Ken Rutherford and Steve Stark took on the project to update the 2003 Constitution and Bylaws to bring our organization into compliance with revised provincial regulations. These revised documents have been completed and presented to the membership for review and ratification. They were submitted to the provincial government and been returned as approved. Of the 340+ members of the 7th Division PNR, 41 voted unanimously to accept the new constitution.
 - **VTEX:** Has become its own legal society with an independent board of directors. The 7th Division PNR supports philosophically and financially the new society and our Superintendent has a

representative seat on their board as liaison. The Board of Directors applauds the VTEX Board of Directors on their accomplishments and wishes them continued success going forward

- **Publicity and BOD Expenses:** The Publicity Chairman, Dick Sutcliffe, requested the Board to review the Publicity Committee expenses. It was determined that our current and tireless publicity chairman was not reimbursed for his reasonable expenses. The Board voted unanimously to increase expenses to cover all reasonable travel expenses that are supported by receipt for this committee that are in support of promotion of the National Model Railroad Association. As well, in accordance with our Constitution and Bylaws, the same expenses shall be covered for the Board of Directors for their duties in the 7th Division PNR.
- **Bulletin Board Distribution:** Currently 307 copies of the Bulletin Board are sent out electronically. Roughly 56% of those email issues are actually opened for reading. There are 20 electronically sent issues that are chronically being returned as undeliverable, all with TELUS.NET addresses. As well, there are 17 members that do not have emails and are receiving their member's copy of the Bulletin Board through regular Canada Post means. The board feels this must stop due to ever increasing associated costs and in the new year, options will be offered to those members that wish to continue to receive paper copies of the Bulletin Board.
- **Event Insurance:** Our Superintendent has addressed this issue previously in our meeting and it is an ongoing concern.
- **Advertising:** Earlier in the year, a local manufacturer approached the board requesting us to send out a time sensitive promotion he was considering via our email list. As NMRA policy prohibits its use for publicity, we sought a solution. In checking with the regional executive, it was determined that if the manufacturer purchased an ad in the Bulletin Board, we would be able to accommodate his request. He did purchase said advertisement and a one-time email was sent to the membership.
- **New Area Representative:** The Board is pleased to announce that Courtenay Area member Dwight Kayto has volunteered to act as the

North Island Area Representative. We welcome Dwight to the leadership and thank him for volunteering.

- **Board of Directors Elections:** There are three positions that are up for re-election. The positions are: 1) Treasurer 2) Director-at-large 3) Secretary. All incumbents have agreed to allow their name to stand for re-election. (see results below)
 - **PNR Elections Nomination Committee:** PNR president Jack Hamilton has requested the 7th Division to designate a member of this division to sit on the nominating committee of the region for upcoming elections. One member was approached but graciously declined the request. A volunteer is still being sought and should you be interested or are considering offering your service please contact John Martin for more information.
2. **Assistant Superintendent:** Dan Rowsell was not in attendance but his report is available on-line.
 3. **Director-At-Large:** Ken Rutherford's report is available on-line
 4. **Bulletin Board Editor:** John Stevenson was present and summarized his published report. John is always looking for more content but currently can fill our average 10 pages per issue (5 pages/double side). He encourages anyone and particularly the RMMBC organization to prepare a brief summary of the events, seminars and operating sessions at the event, as John feels all 7th Div. members would love to find out about what they missed. Finally, John quipped that the editor for the 1971 issue of the Bulletin Board was also pleading for content. Superintendent Martin added that archived Bulletin Board issues are available on the website dating to the 1970 due to the generosity of Greg Madsen, Scott Calvert and Don Slee, and the considerable efforts of Webmaster Brian Clogg.
 5. **Publicity:** Dick Sutcliffe was in attendance and his report is posted on-line. Mr. Sutcliffe wishes to reiterate that he would like to retire. His tireless efforts are appreciated and he was recognized for the work he does.
 6. **Membership:** Brian Clogg's report and statistics are on-line.
 7. **Achievement Program:** Mike Chandler's report is available on-line. He reports Dwight Kayto has achieved the Chief Dispatcher certificate and is to be congratulated. Others members are encouraged to pursue and or complete the requirements of the Achievement Program.

- 8. Jack Work Memorial Trophy:** Rene Gourley was acknowledged for his work on this committee, and 7th Div. member Jim Little was awarded the 2018 Trophy at last spring's RMMBC meet.
- 9. Ross Herriot Award:** John Green was acknowledged for his work on this committee and 7th Div. member Rene Gourley was awarded the 2018 Award at last spring's RMMBC meet.
- 10. RMMBC:** Rene Gourley, Meet Chairman, prepared a brief report and it is available on-line. Superintendent Martin observed that there are 140 7th Div. members in the lower mainland but only 40 attending the meet, many of whom are involved in the organization of the event. The committee can't understand why more members don't avail themselves of the opportunity to attend. A survey was sent out to determine what could be done to engage more local member participation and the interesting results are being analyzed by the RMMBC committee.
- 11. Victoria/ Nanaimo Train Shows:** Both reports are on-line. We are pleased to report that a donation of \$200 was received from Ted Alexis, Chairman of the Victoria Show and that Ken Rutherford contributed \$500 to the Division on behalf of the Nanaimo Train Show in 2018. As we haven't received any funds from the PNR for the last two years, this is the only income the 7th Div. has received this year. Thank you to the organizing committees of both of these shows.
- 12. VTEX:** Tom Lundgren summarized and presented his written report about the Vancouver Train Exposition and the makeup of the newly revitalized management committee. He spoke briefly of the transfer of the assets from the old "Trains" show to the new society, and of the new Letter of Understanding that exists between the VTEX Society and the 7th Div. PNR. Tom reiterated that this society is desperately short of staff to carry on in the future and there is a great need for a succession plan going forward. The attendance today (Saturday) at the public show was nearly identical to last year with 2814 paid visitors. The revenue is up significantly due to the increase in the admission and this increase doesn't appear to have impacted attendance. Thanks to his staff for running this business. Round of applause given. (Note: Final paid attendance at the 2018 show was 5592. Attendance was 4,500 in 2015; 5,036 in 2016; and 5,947 in 2018.)

13. Area Representative Reports: Reference was made to all 9 individual area reports available on-line. There were no questions nor discussion from the floor about any of the reports.

14. Member Aid: Mike Barone's online report was referenced and no comments were received from the floor to Mike. Mike offers helpful hints about modelling issues and concerns and is available via email or phone to answer your modelling concerns.

15. Superintendent's Report: John Martin reports that if we change the date of the AGM to the spring then a minor amendment to the bylaws is required. The current bylaw states that newly elected officials will assume their position the first day of the month following the Annual General Meeting. If the AGM date is changed, the 2-year term for the elected position is violated. Therefore, the bylaw is to be amended by special resolution to reflect January 1 as being the date the position is to be filled for a two-year period.

John reports that the 7th Div. has invested a significant sum of money over the years towards staging the Vancouver Train Show. John clarified the financial relationship of the Vancouver Train show (known previously as BC Trains 19XX), the Vancouver Train Expo (VTEX), and the newly formed Lower Mainland Train Expo Society (LMTES). The assets of the original Train Show still reside in the LMTES. A formal Letter of Understanding has been signed to ensure that if the VTEX train show organization and LMTES cease operations, all assets will be returned to the 7th Div. and held by the 7th Div. for a possible future train show.

PNR Convention: The PNR has a new president (Kurt Laidlaw). He had been asked to make a presentation to the AGM but he sent his regrets. PNR has requested two nominees for two committees.

- Education Committee Member- Issue to be addressed in the future
 - Nomination Committee Member- Issue to be addressed in the future.
- There were no volunteers for either committee.

Election of Directors

Call for nomination of new officers was published twice in the Bulletin Board. The three incumbents agreed to allow their names to stand. There were no other nominations. The three directors (Treasurer Larry Sebelley, Director-at-Large Ken Rutherford, and Secretary Jim Guillaume) have been acclaimed. Round of applause.

New Business

1. **Heritage Award:** Ken Rutherford reported that our constitution makes extensive reference to the preservation and presentation of railroad history in both model and real form. The Board is proposing the 7th Div. create an award for a member that expends time and energy to meet those purposes that is similar in vein to the Jack Work and Golden Spike award. The award will be presented annually (if applicable) to a member of the NMRA, PNR, 7th Division who has shown an interest in the preservation of railroad history.

Criteria:

- a) Member has exhibited an interest in the history of railroads in British Columbia.
- b) The member may also be a member of an historical association or society that works on the preservation and presentation of railroad history and artifacts
- c) The member has contributed to the preservation of railroad history through published writings, volunteered to work on restoration projects, sat on boards of historical societies or museums that contribute to the preservation of railroad history.
- d) Members may have put in many hours volunteering with an operating historical railroad as a member of the operating crew or as a docent traveling with the train telling the general public about the history of railroading
- e) The nominating member shall provide documentation on the nominee in writing to outline the nominee's accomplishments.

Motion to accept the proposal to establish the Heritage Award made by Randy Nussli. CARRIED

2. **Master Model Railroader:** Mike Chandler MMR and 7th Division AP Chairman presented the prestigious NMRA Master Model Railroader certificate # 611 to Jim Little of Coldstream B.C. A hearty round of applause given. Jim shared his views that this is not a contest between an individual and other model railroaders but rather a challenge and incentive toward self improvement in a member's skills as a modeller. He said that it is a lot of work but so worth it and he encourages us all to go for it.
3. **Donations:** The Superintendent received a cheque from the Victoria Model Train Show for \$200 and Ken Rutherford acknowledged the \$500 donation received from the Nanaimo Show at the spring RMMBC meet. Round of applause.
4. **Heritage Award Co-ordinator:** Request for a volunteer from within the audience went unanswered. Superintendent Martin said he will work to fill the position at a later date.
5. **Upcoming Events:**
 - a) Kootenay Express 2019: Ed Molenkamp, 6th Div. Superintendent (and NMRA Canada Vice-President) made a presentation about the PNR Regional convention that is to be held in Cranbrook, B.C. from May 29-June 2, 2019. The Cranbrook Prestige Inn is the host hotel. To date, one layout has been identified in the area. There will be a whole presentation of clinics, proto-type tours and a "Down and Dirty" tour of the world-famous Canadian Museum of Rail Travel that will allow registrants the opportunity to truly study the famous Canadian Pacific "Trans Canada Limited" collection, "Modelling with the Masters" and a Non-rail Spousal program. There will be a separate train show as well as the regular PNR convention.
 - b) Nelson 2020: Scott Calvert and Tom Carr reported that a joint Canadian Pacific Historical Association (CPHA) and Great Northern Railway Historical Society (GNRHS) Convention is going to be held in Nelson B.C. from September 19-23, 2020. It is the first time that the Great Northern Railway Historical

Society has held a national convention outside of the United States and the first time the CPHA and GNRHS will stage a joint convention. Both groups are very excited about the opportunity to work together in an area that is rich in history for both railroads. The Prestige Lakeside Resort & Convention Center will be the host hotel. Bob Turner, noted author and historian is to be the banquet's guest speaker. Preliminary information on Nelson 2020 is contained on the CPHA website and a Facebook site is in development. It is a closed event and requires membership in either organization to attend.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 21:45 November 10, 2018.

Submitted by Jim Guillaume, 7th Div. Secretary.