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7th Division PNR/NMRA Annual General Meeting 2013 Held During Trains 2013 At The Cameron Recreation Centre, Burnaby BC On Sunday November 10, 2013 From 1400 To 1600 Hours.

Minutes

Call to Order

Superintendent Russ Watson called the meeting to order at 1405 hours in the Cedar Room of the Cameron Recreation Centre, Burnaby BC. 25 members, including 5 executive members, signed in.

2013 Agenda

Motion to accept by John Green, seconded by Tom Carr – Carried.

Prize Draw

The Trains 2013 Organising Committee decided to provide a prize draw for those attending the AGM. Tom Lundgren distributed draw tickets to all those present and several prizes were won.

NMRA National Report

Jack Hamilton, NMRA Western Director, spoke of activities taking place on a national level. While his area of responsibility does not cover Canada, it was thought it would be useful for him to report on the programs being worked on.

- The National Headquarters Building in Chattanooga is in the process of being sold. The building has become surplus to the needs of the club and is being purchased by the Tennessee Valley Railway. The proceeds of the sale will be invested and the returns on the investment, used for member benefits.

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- Vertical Integration. A strategic plan being worked on in the US at the moment, that will involve creating a single US Corporation for non-profit tax purposes with the members at the Divisional level providing the input for club organisation. It is hoped that eventually something similar can be created for Canada.
- Education. A program called EduTRAIN is being implemented. The goal is to take a very large body of model railroad clinic information; standardise, it formalise it, and make it available for use anywhere.
- Communication. Now taking place in multiple formats:
 - NMRA Magazine. Published on set schedule with detailed information on the club.
 - E Bulletin. Email information released as it happens. Up to the minute club information.
 - Train Orders. Similar to E Bulletin but information at the PNR level. Eventually to be phased out as E Bulletin becomes fully developed. New members are announced in this communication and Jack asked us, as existing members to seek these people out and welcome them to the club. Very soon this report will also communicate AP activity.
- In a question segment of his presentation, members expressed concern about E Bulletin being sent in colour which increased download time and consumed more ink if printed. They will look into this.

Minutes from 2012 AGM

Motion to accept by Tom Carr, seconded by Roger Behn - Carried

Old Business Arising From the 2012 AGM Minutes

- The publicity coordinators position, which has been held by Dick Sutcliffe for many years, is still open for replacement. Greg Kennelly has built several sets of Display Boards which are lighter and much easier to transport. There is one set each, for the Island, for the Interior and for the Lower Mainland. The job has been made much easier – basically someone to contact members to man the booth at shows. Contact Dick

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Sutcliffe at ras1@uniserve.com or Russ Watson at russwatson@me.com if you are interested giving Dick a much needed break from this job!

- Trains 2013 Committee/storage of assets. At last year's AGM the concern was if there was going to be a Trains 2013 Committee and what to do with the assets. This has been resolved with a new committee being formed and the assets that were held by Dick Sutcliffe have been transferred to Greg Madsen.

-Bill Hewlett slide scanning project. Greg Kennelly had earlier reported to Superintendent, Russ Watson, that no progress had been made. However Brian Clogg asked Russ to email him – he has a scanner capable of doing this and could perhaps help out.

-Jim Ferrier collection. Doug Meyer reported that the organising and scanning of the drawings in this collection is a much greater challenge than originally anticipated and it probably exceeds the resources available to do the job. However, after much discussion, it was decided that an attempt to properly sort and document the collection would be beneficial and could be done, with help from volunteers. Some of this has already been done with the help from Mike Barone. Superintendent, Russ Watson stated that he would put out a call for volunteers. Once the collection is properly documented, it is likely that historical societies would be interested in scanning the documents for their own use.

-BB editor's position. Adrian Noble has taken on this Job. As well, Doug Kelleway has taken over the postal mail portion of distribution of the Bulletin from Gary Hazel. Superintendent, Russ Watson has instructed Adrian that he wants all issues out on time regardless of how much content he has. Russ reminds us, the members, of how important it is, that we get news to Adrian.

-Local NMRA membership meetings. Ken Rutherford suggested last year organising gatherings of local members in the subdivisions as an added membership benefit. The purpose was to share knowledge and get to know one another. Approval was given to have \$200.00 available to aid expenses. Ken stated that the only known new activity to take place so far was by him on the Island. However Ken acknowledged that Graham Stokes had been doing this on the North Shore for some time now. Russ Watson stated that John Ireland, before his unfortunate death had been working to have meetings in the Prince George area. Russ stated that he was now going to take on organising a mini meet for the 100 Mile House to Prince George area.

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- 2016 PNR Regional Convention. Gary Hazel had expressed interest several years ago in hosting the next PNR Regional Convention in Salmon Arm. The convention rotates through the Region and 2016 is the 7th Divisions turn. Gary recently met with his club and because of declining membership it was decided that they no longer could host this convention. After much discussion it was decided that Gary would approach people outside his club from the Kamloops to Revelstoke and Vernon areas to form a committee to organise a meet. Because of its central location, it would probably be held in Salmon Arm. Space has already been tentatively booked there.

- Policy Manual. Russ Watson stated that a Policy Manual has been created over the last year and it is posted on our website. He asked for all members that haven't read it, to please do so and if there are changes or additions, to please contact him.

Elected Executive and Appointed Position Reports

Treasurers Report

Larry Sebelley summarised and presented a written financial report for the year ending October 31 2013. (see addendum #1)

Summary

Revenue - \$2,048

Expenses - \$665

Net Profit = \$1,361

Motion to accept by Roger Behn, seconded by Jamie Nelson – Carried.

Secretaries Report

Bob Leggett read and presented his written secretaries report. (see addendum #1)

Presidents Report

Russ Watson read and presented his written superintendents report. (see addendum #1). As an aside to his report, he noticed Michael Batten of the Trains 2013 committee in attendance at the meeting and asked for a report. Michael first thanked the previous committee and the executive for all their assistance for this year's meet. He stated that

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at that point, they expected the show would turn out a success, with an attendance of over 2000. Round of applause from all present.

Vice Presidents Report

Jim Little read and presented his written assistant superintendents report. (see addendum #1)

Past Presidents Report

Gary Hazel read and presented his written past president report. (see addendum #1)

Membership Coordinators Report

Brian Clogg read and presented his membership BB mailing report. (see addendum #2). Ken Rutherford stated that there have been reports of problems with membership renewals. Brian replied that he would like to take on sending out renewal notices in the hope that this would cut down on problems.

BB Editors Report

Adrian Noble was not at the meeting, but Bob Leggett read his previously submitted written report. (see addendum #2)

Video Library Report

Don Gooch was not at the meeting, but Bob Leggett read his previously submitted report. (see addendum #2). There has been no activity by the members in requesting these video's to view. Ken Rutherford made a motion that if there was no activity in the next year that the video's either be sold or donated to NMRA Canada. Seconded by Lorry Sebelley. Carried

Publicity Coordinators Report

Dick Sutcliffe had left the meeting by this point, but Bob Leggett read his previously submitted report. (see addendum #2)

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Member Aid Chairmans Report

Mike Barone gave a verbal member aid chairman's report. He reports no requests so far, but he intends to write something in the form of advice or hints to be regularly published in the BB.

AP Chairmans Report

Russ Watson read and presented his written AP chairman's report, (see addendum #2) As an aside, Russ said that he attended a clinic by Jack Hamilton who is also the PNR AP Chairman. From this clinic he learned that work is in progress to reduce the formal amount of paperwork in AP judging. Also all that is required to pass AP judging, is 87 ½ points out of 125 – your work does not have to be museum quality.

Director at Large Report

Nothing to report under this heading.

Web Master Report

Greg Madsen was not at the meeting and he had not previously filed a report. However Russ Watson spoke about how pleased he was with Greg's website work. He has moved the website to a new address – www.7dprn.org . Russ encourages us all to visit the site as all 7Division documents are listed there plus a blog style of posting of all current information.

Jack Work Memorial Trophy Coordinators Report

Rene Gourley was not at the meeting but John Green spoke on his behalf. There will be an award at tonight's banquet presented by John on behalf of Rene. **Secretaries Note:** At the banquet the award was given to Mike Chandler. He also received his Master Model Railroader award which he had earned earlier in the year.

Ross Heriot Golden Spike Award Coordinators Report

John Green spoke about not getting any nominations for this year as well as presenting a written report, (see addendum #2)

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Standing Committee Reports – Subdivisions

South Vancouver Island

Ted Alexis was not at the meeting but he had previously submitted a written report (see addendum #3). As an aside to Ted's report, Russ Watson spoke of the changing needs of insurance coverage for these meets. Venues now wish to be specifically named in the policy as well as higher limits to the coverage than the NMRA currently supplies. Organisers need to apply early for changes to the policy from the NMRA and the executive will be discussing the need for increased coverage.

Mid Vancouver Island

Ken Rutherford read and submitted his written mid island report. (see addendum #3)

North Vancouver Island

Don Forsyth was not at the meeting but Bob Leggett read his previously submitted written north island report. (see addendum #3)

Lower Mainland – Tri Cities to Hope (North Fraser)

Tom Carr had previously submitted a written report. (see addendum #3)

Lower Mainland – Langley to Hope (South Fraser)

Larry Sebelley had previously submitted a written report. (see addendum #3)

Lower Mainland – Vancouver/Richmond/Burnaby/New Westminister

John Green had previously submitted a written report. (see addendum #3)

Lower Mainland – Surrey and Delta

Brian Clogg stated that there was nothing to report this year

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Lower Mainland – North Shore to Pemberton

Graham Stokes had previously submitted a written report. (see addendum #3)

Interior – Kootenay Region

Mike Barone gave a verbal report. His club took their layout to Kamloops last spring where it was very well received. In September they took it to Edmonton where it won a 2nd place award. In a week they are taking part in Train Days in Trail and are planning to take the layout to Calgary next spring. The club is doing well.

Interior – Kamloops

Mathew Buchanan was not at the meeting and he had not previously submitted a report.

Interior – Okanagan/Thompson/Shuswap

Doug Mayer gave a verbal report. His club continues to work on the layout in the Revelstoke Railway Museum. They just received a model to add to the layout built by Patrick Lawson. If you are passing through Revelstoke next spring, Doug invites you to stop by and see all the new additions. The Railway Museum will be closed through most of the winter but it is opening for special events, such as Christmas.

Positions Open

North of Prince George/Bulkley Valley to Prince Rupert. Also shown is 100 Mile House to Prince George – but Russ Watson has recently put his name forward to take over the vacancy caused by the passing of John Ireland.

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New Business

2013 Election Results

Ken Rutherford stated that 48 ballots were submitted with 3 spoiled ballots and no new nominations given. Therefore Russ Watson is re-elected as President and Tom Carr is elected as Vice President. Next year the positions of Secretary, Treasurer, and Director at Large come up for election. Although no one is necessarily stepping down, Ken urges all to consider running for these positions. That way there would be competition on the ballot rather than election by acclamation. Ken moved to destroy this year's ballots, seconded by John Green – Carried.

Future Spring Meets

Russ Watson stated that at this point there were no volunteers for next year's meet. A few possibilities were discussed by several at the meeting, but nothing is organised at this time. Russ said that he would get back to these people and see if there is further interest to pursue this with help from others in the 7th Division.

Printed Plastic Bags for 7th Division Promotion at Shows/Meets

Ken Rutherford proposed having plastic bags printed as a giveaway item for the NMRA Booth. The purpose is as an item to engage conversation with people walking by the booth, plus promotional items could be placed in bag. A lengthy discussion took place as to the merits of the idea versus whether it could be a waste. A motion was made by John Ruder to refer this for consideration by the executive. Seconded by Gary Hazell – Carried.

Interior Spring Meet Financial Float

For many years a sum of money that was raised from the proceeds of NMRA sanctioned Spring Meets has been passed from group to group as a start-up fund for putting on these meets. It has grown to the sum of \$1000.00 and is currently held by Brian Kelly, whose group was the last to hold a Spring Meet. Our Treasurer, Larry Sebelley has proposed taking back these funds after the meet was held and holding them in trust with other 7th Division funds, specifically identified as a Spring Meet advance fund. This would remove the financial responsibility of clubs having to retain these funds until the

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next meet is held. Considerable discussion took place about concerns of the people who raised the funds in the beginning and their fear of the money not being used for this purpose. Russ Watson stated that the funds would not be used for any other purpose. He asked Larry Sebelley to repeat his motion to have these funds returned to the 7th Division and held in trust as a Spring Meet Financial Float that would be advanced to the next group to hold this meet. If accepted this would be written into the policy manual. It was seconded by John Ruder. Russ Watson asked for a show of hands for those in favour and after a count, the motion was carried.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Doug Kelleway at 1607 hours.

Respectfully Submitted

Bob Leggett

7th Division Secretary