

**ACCRS
HO Monthly Meeting
Minutes
February 7, 2014**

Meeting brought to order at 8:30 pm.

Trainmaster Ed Carreno opened the meeting.

Next meeting March 7th.

Ed announced that website was updated for 2014 schedule. All Good Guys dates, Fair dates, and DCC days are now listed. If not listed then the night is analog by default.

Old Business

Fast Clock

Wayne sent out an email about the fast clock in which he outlined how much it will cost. It was generally agreed upon that his cost proposal was acceptable.

Drive-In

Joel is working on repairing a small LCD screen and DVD player for the drive in. He will update the group on his progress over time.

Website

Ed announced that no new submissions for website ideas were made to him over email. He took verbal suggestions.

Andy K. suggested getting videos of the layout on the website.

Ed suggested getting new and old pictures put up.

Tragan suggested making a Paypal donation button for acquiring online donations.

Dennis wondered if any other club website accepts online donations and if it works or not. The group decided to do it anyways.

Ed stated that Tony suggested making a Facebook page.

Lee wondered why we should have a Facebook page when we have a website. Ed stated Facebook is its own entity and we need special presence there separate from the website.

Tragan suggested a Twitter account. It was generally decided that we should not do that.

Mark suggested an open house signup form on the website so that members can sign up for working shows online. It would not replace the manual sign up sheet, but enhance it.

It was also brought up having internet access in the building, but not agreed upon.

Approvals for the website were as follows:

- Paypal button for donating to the club.
- Add videos.
- Add picture gallery.
- Web-based form for accepting new members online.
- Online signup sheet for working events.
- Rules on website about car/engine requirements.

Minutes

Minutes from previous month moved for approval. Paul moved. Lee seconded. Motion passed.

Brochure

Ed contacted Ernest and got his brochure. He will use it for growth and to distribute knowledge. Lee said the brochure should be distributed to the hobby shops. Ed will email out the brochure to the members. Ed decided he will appoint a volunteer to finish the brochure and decide what to do with it. No one was appointed during the meeting.

Manuals

Ed asked for volunteers to finish the new member manual and establish the process for checking out club DCC engines. No one was appointed during the meeting.

New Business

Club Car Clerk

Carl submitted a previous plan for having a car clerk committee. The committee consists of positions that the Trainmaster appoints. The committee needs to make a roster of cars and list which need to be repaired. Also, a complaint form was used previously for complaining about general issues with the state of the club cars. It was agreed that there should be two people in the car clerk committee. Engines were not included, the committee is to handle rolling stock only.

The Lewis brothers were appointed as car clerks.

Carl wanted to know if anyone located the old records for the car maintenance reports. Carl said they used to be in the building. Ed said he went through the old records, but all he could find was a document stating that we should have those documents.

Dean said he went to Napa valley model railroad club. Every piece of equipment had to pass inspection before someone put it on the layout. Equipment also had to be maintained every two years. Dean said all their rules are on their website, but they are a lot more stringent than we are. Dean suggested it as the upper level of what we could do.

Charles Chan suggested that we have all member equipment inspected by the clerks before shows.

Ed talked about making a car test track.

Gary suggested just testing your equipment at home with 3 feet of Atlas track.

Dean discussed the necessity of making sure couplers are the right height and properly sprung.

Andy K. suggested that members should never be told they can't run on Friday nights because of poor gear, and Friday is for testing. John reinforced his opinion saying Fridays should be open to let people run and see how it goes before a show. Marc agreed.

Carl reinforced that Kadee is the only coupler acceptable for use at our club, and it must be proper height.

Ed wrapped up by saying he wants the volunteers to manage these car issues.

Platform Lights

Gary is working on the preliminary stages of turning the passenger station platform lights to LED. Ed told Gary he needs to submit a formal proposal about the time and budget for the project. Gary talked about some of the materials he will need.

\$100-200 estimated to do the project, not to exceed \$200.

It will be done before the fair.

Dean motioned to accept the proposal and approve the project. Lee seconded. Motion passed.

DCC Ports

Joel described his project of testing and repairing the DCC ports, and adding new ports to key locations.

Project cost not to exceed \$100.

Joel will need a big spool of cat5 cable. Ed and Marc claimed to have that. Joel only needs to buy RJ-11 sockets.

Dean motioned to accept the proposal and approve the project. Marc seconded. Motion passed.

Ernest Project

Ed put Joel and Gary in charge of making an official written proposal for the "Ernest Project," otherwise called the "Interurban Extension."

DCC Address Changer

Lee showed a DCC address changer he was interested in. The device changes and detects DCC addresses only and no other locomotive functions. The purpose of the device would be to allow the "computer-challenged" of the club to change their DCC addresses without having to frustrate themselves with the rest of the programming track features. Lee proposed that the club purchase one.

Charles Chan said that before we commit to purchase it someone should verify that it works on as many decoders as possible. Ed asked Lee to get a price and let the members know.

There was some initial skepticism as to purchasing the device, but it was eventually agreed upon that it may be a good idea if the price is reasonable.

Operations

An operations email list was produced since last meeting. Ed asked for Dennis to make a document describing how operations will work and what it is.

An ops meeting was planned for the 21st of February at 7:30pm to discuss ops.

Ed moved to close the meeting. John seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 9:17pm.

Minutes recorded by Assistant Trainmaster Joel Clark.