



## *Havin' Fun Runnin' Trains*

### **Big Train Operator Club, Inc. 2016 Fourth Quarter Board of Directors Meeting**

**Date: December 12, 2017**

#### **Call to Order/Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order by President Bill Harryman at 8 pm EST.

Roll Call indicated present: Bill Harryman (President), Jon Molesworth (Vice-President), Rich Dulski (Vice-President), Scott Fowler (Vice-President), Dave Snow (Membership Chair), Bob Somogyi (BTO Editor), Ralph E. Wilcox (Director-Emeritus), Dave Wierowski (Director), Marshall Adams (Convention Chairman), Teya Caple-Woods (Incoming director), Charles Bartel, Secretary.

#### **Secretary Report**

Minutes from the third quarter board meeting plus special meeting were approved as posted on the Club's website.

Motion to accept made by Jon Molesworth and Seconded by Dave Wierowski. Motion approved.

#### **Treasurer Report**

John submitted treasurers report via email prior to the meeting. Bill reviewed this as follows.

In general, things are good. We paid AG Press and here are our current Bank Balances as of the night. Checking has \$3,250, Money Market \$20,012.57, with the PayPal account at \$ 3,002.08 to be transferred later this month into checking.

We are down to a few Shanties and 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary car sets; lets plug them on Facebook and WEB. We have sold 13 Sparky sets. We have four families that have registered for the June convention. We will have some bills for the convention in January which will require that we tap into our reserve accounts until registrations pick up.

Motion to accept made by Rich Dulski, seconded by Scott Fowler. Approved.

#### **Membership Report**

Adjusted membership is 364. We lost 11 members since 9/27 but picked up one new member and two reinstated members. We feel it is the time of the year where people are a little slow in responding. Half of those deleted were many years with the club (25 or 30 years) with member numbers in the 3 digits. Do not believe the loss was due to dues, but rather to age and possible deaths of some members (that we have no current way to verify).

We had a Member question through the secretary-- Dues notice lead him to believe that he owed \$ 50 for dues plus 45 for the BTO mag. We need make sure that they understand that the \$ 45 for the BTO magazine is part of the \$ 50. No additional charge.

Motion to accept made by Jon Molesworth, seconded by Charles Bartel, Motion approved.

#### **BTO Editor Report**

Winter issue went into mail December 1<sup>st</sup>. Spring issue due in the mail March 1<sup>st</sup>. Convention registration form, etc. There will be an ad (David Hawk) who is selling some of his old BTO's. We are reducing the number of extras being printed to save us some money in the printing cost. Will reduce the number from 450 down to 400. We use the extra's copies at shows, etc. Will save about \$ 150 per quarter. A video was made of the walk around the pond at the convention site. Can we post on YouTube this video of the walk to spur interest in members?

Motion to accept made by Jon Molesworth, seconded by Scout Fowler. Motion approved.

#### **Convention Report**

2019 - There is no change. Hotel is booked. Will do nothing until August.



## ***Havin' Fun Runnin' Trains***

2018 –Had a meeting today with Bird in hand. They have added a second indoor pool since our last convention. John Groot was there today. Everything seems to be fine. Will be down in the same three rooms we were in the last time we were there. Usage of the rooms will depend on vendors coming. Bachmann is coming. Becky is coming, but only as a member. Working with USA and Piko to see if we could get them there as a vendor. Banquet menu has been finalized. First run of cars may be followed by a second run. Convention car completed and being reviewed. Early bird registration is earlier this year. Ends on the 31<sup>st</sup> of March. \$7,000 convention fees in January. Convention meeting will be scheduled early next year.

If Ulrich is unable to make the convention, we will need additional support from committee members to fulfill his duties. Dave Wierowski is getting responses to his email asking for track commitment. We have 190 feet of track committed at this time. Dave to keep a running total of committed track.  
Motion to accept made by Scott Fowler, seconded by Jon Molesworth. Motion approved.

### **Old Business (with action items as appropriate)**

1. Membership Drive—Dave Snow reported that the Recruit a Buddy Program only got 5 in 2017. Last one was in May.
2. Contact Dealers to Distribute BTOC Literature—Scott: Nothing new at this time.
3. Facebook—Bill Harryman: Nothing to report. Jon is approving a new member almost every day. Facebook page has 410 friends, but only 41 are current members of the club. Push BTO membership on the Facebook page. Question to be proposed to our IT support: Can we put a banner on the top that would stay there?
4. York Spring Show-Dave Wierowski coordinating, has the banner for the show.
5. 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary: Club car and Shanty were special for the convention. Shanty almost gone. A few car sets left. Any orders received shortly will not be shipped until after December. Dealer is very busy (great news for the vendors).
6. As noted in the BTO report, need to have the video to the web site.
7. We have an update on the status of Ulrich. All of our information is coming third hand. According to our sources, he is eating on his own. We do not know precisely what this means, other than it is an improvement from when he was in the induced comma. He is currently in in a rehab hospital, having been transferred from the intensive care unit earlier. We will not publish via email notice any official status of his condition as we do not have any direct contact for this information.

### **New Business (with action items)**

- Marshall pushing us to get a 2018 budget.
- Bob Newsom was a long-term member of the BTO several years who passed away a few years back. During his membership time, he had held several officer's positions during his membership. He has since passed away. His son is taking over his dad's train. He is going to write an article for the BTO. May not make it for Spring, but should be there for next issue.

### **Adjournment**

Jon Molesworth moved to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 8:52pm EST

Board Action via Email correspondence: The 2018 proposed budget was submitted by Bill Harryman to the board for approval via email return. The budget was so approved.

Minutes prepared by Charles Bartel, Secretary

Minute's submittal for approval by William R. Harryman Date: January 14, 2018



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Bill Harryman, 2017 President

Revision record prior to release for publication

January 15 – made changes per Dave Snow email- spelling changes and complete member name in new business. Marshall also caught spelling error. Added 2018 Budget to minutes

January 23 – Teya asked under keeping track of track for the around the pond paragraph that the correct Dave be identified. Has been added.