

Big Train Operator Club, Inc.

2016 Fourth Quarter Board of Directors Meeting

Date: December 13, 2016

Time: 8:00 PM EST

Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by VP Scott Fowler at 8:00 pm EST.

Roll Call indicated present: Jon Molesworth, Rich Dulski, Scott Fowler, John Groot, Dave Snow, Bob Somogyi, Ralph E. Wilcox, Ralph S. Wilcox) Ulrich Fassbender, Dave Wierowski, Marshall Adams, Charles Bartel

Bill Harryman was absent due to a funeral.

Secretary Report

Minutes from the September board meeting were approved as distributed.

Motion to accept made by: John Groot, Seconded by: Marshall Adams, Approved.

Treasurer Report

Excel sheets distributed by separate email for review board review.

Two more registrations have been received, Marshall for full convention and one registration and tee shirt. Of the 45 car sets ordered by the club, 41 have been purchased by members, four available. One order for add on car. Marshall to address. A second car has been ordered. They are only available at convention. Lowest level of income at this time. We have three orders for engines that are not yet entered. Sold them through paperwork, not through the web, thought the order information is now on the website. Have sold one without sound, and three with sound. Being able to register on web may be effected the registration numbers. Lou is working the issue(s).

We have a deficit for the convention at this time.

Motion to accept made by: Charles Bartel, Seconded by Ralph S. Wilcox, Approved.

Membership Report

New members reinstated were 6, with a total 377 as of today with additional outs and takes. Some emails were kicked backed. Dave is reaching out to get updated email addresses. With new membership card, letter asking for updated email address. Please send an email to Dave. So far, 90% of membership cards that went out have responded. Have added 6 or 7 new addresses. Shaded membership list with light blue to show it has been updated.

Motion to accept made by John Groot, Seconded by Ralph S Wilcox, Approved.

BTO Editor Report

Winter issue has gone out. A lot photo entries came in for the 2017 calendar of which a lot were from new contributors. Issue also included registration form for convention and order form for Buffalo cars. Lou has straightened out the web site for registration. Spring BTO will have a review of Buffalo convention and the registration form. Also will have order form the engine. If anyone has any articles or interesting pictures for the BTO, they would be helpful for the next issue. Rich Dulski to send in 5 more write ups for the layout tours.

Motion to accept made by John Groot, Seconded by: Jon Molesworth, Approved.

Convention Report

Buffalo Convention

All events have been booked. Still working on the layout tours. Payment schedule will need a little attention. Some coming up that registration has not yet covered, may require some advance payments from the club to cover the next round of convention cost. Prizes are in very good shape. Working some raffle issues. Becky is provided a Big John. Ron is going to provide a couple of cars. Call for a committee meeting in second week of January. There are some non-board members who are interested in participating. There would be an opportunity for some board members who are also on the convention committee to take a break for this convention. We will have one full size coach, and one short coach. There have been questions about private cars driving to some events. The answer is that the cost of the event includes the cost of the coaches. In order to meet the budget, we cannot pull transportation out of the event cost. For those wanting to take battery powered trains to run, there will be space under the buss for carrying trains.

Convention Car Status

Cars have been received at Piko. First set of cars (36) have been shipped (36).

Dave Wierowski is going to drive out early in order to make sure things are set up for the Finger Lakes live steamers.

Continued...

40th Anniversary Convention

Not a lot has been done since last meeting. Need to review activities. Look for some open house in the area. Venue is booked.

Convention Cars



Side one

Side two

Scott commented on the art work of the car. Really a standout.

Motion to accept made by Jon Molesworth, Seconded by Dave Wierowski, Approved

Old Business

1. Membership Drive: Sent out email with 2015 recruiting membership to collect email addresses. Certificates were sent out to the recruiter for the recruit a buddy program. For 2016, there will be 11 new members. Vouchers to be mailed out when these 11 renew. Program has been successful.
2. Facebook: Scott indicated that Facebook has been getting a lot of posting. Encourage members to go to the page. Put our Christmas trains on the web. We had a couple of advertisers that posted. They have been blocked and removed.
3. 2017 Club Car

The 2017 Club Car is the Anniversary engine. The Anniversary engine looks very good. They will be on a container by the end of January. Loco analog version without sound will be available by the end of February. Sound version will come out after.

Thanks to Bob for his artwork. It makes the engine and the cars a standout. On the ends of the cars, there will be different printings. These will be anniversary dates of the convention. There will be only one car. Supplier provided a high price for the four car set. Relates it to the density and complexity of the art. Significant time in getting the car through the factory. By reducing the requirement to one car, the price will be adjusted accordingly. We do not yet have a price due to the Christmas rush at the supplier. BTO needs firm pricing in January for the convention meeting. Currently, we are looking at one or two cars with simpler printing. In the event that the pricing is still on the high side, we are looking at alternate cars. Suggestion was to maybe use container cars instead of a boxcar/reefer. We owe Bob a big favor. In the art work, we will match manufacture with a picture of the car they made for the club under their logo. Dave Wierowski likes the idea of the container if the other falls through.

Motion to accept all activities under old business made by Jon Molesworth, Seconded by Dave Wierowski, Approved.

New Business

Dave Wierowski and Diane will be at the York show. Need to contact new administration to make sure we have the booth space at the show. Want to make sure we have a loco at the table. Comment made about the great calendar. Can we get some copies to hand out at the East Coast Show? Two raffle cars. Bob going to make a new table cloth for the show.

When is start for set up at the Buffalo convention? Currently, noon to 4 PM. 2:00 is scheduled for the goody bag, 4:00 for the board meeting.

Following the board meeting, there is an invitation to the board members and their spouses for Pizza at David Bartel's. David is the son of Charles and is into O27 trains. He has a building filled with trains and is working diligently to have them all up and running. He has an outside patio to sit on while we eat.

Adjournment

Motion made to adjourn by John Groot, seconded by Ralph E. Wilcox.

Adjourned at 8:55

Merry Christmas to all.