



Havin' Fun Runnin' Trains

Big Train Operator Club, Inc. 2017 3rd Quarter Board of Directors Meeting

Date: September 25, 2017

Call to Order/Roll Call

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

Roll Call indicated present: Jon Molesworth (Vice-President), Rich Dulski (Vice-President), John Groot (Treasurer), Dave Snow (Membership Chair), Bob Simonyi (BTO Editor), Ralph E. Wilcox (Director-Emeritus), Dave Wierowski (Director), Marshall Adams (Convention Chairman)

Secretary Report

Minutes from the last meeting board meeting were approved as posted on the Club's website.

Motion to accept made by Rich Dulski. Seconded by Ralph E. Wilcox Sr.

Motion approved

Treasurer's report

We have paid all of the active invoices. Have a bit more than \$ 20,000 cash on hand. Paid all of the bills for convention 2018 as of today. Complete financial standing to be provided end of month.

Motion to accept made by Dave Wierowski. Seconded by Dave Snow

Motion approved.

Membership Report

3 new members, one on East coast, one from web site, one international and 6 reinstated. Number of deleted number was 20. 11 of them were first year member. 4 members were recruited from East Coast show. 4 from La Porte. 376 current members. 251 good emails. Getting emails with renewals. Question: If Bill submits some names from a recent train trip, could Dave determine if they had been or are members. The response was yes. Question: Could we send on a quarter bases an email to get feedback and be more in contact with our members? Things like cut off on order dates, upcoming show activity.

Motion to accept made by Bill Harryman. Seconded by: Bob Simonyi

Motion approved

BTO Editor Report

December 1st is the mail date for the fourth issue. Will have calendar, election results, as well as an application for registration for the convention. Only have 4 photos for contest. Need photos for calendar. Could use more photos as well as items for the BTO.

Motion to accept made by Dave Wierowski. Seconded by: John Groot.

Motion approved

Convention Report

The 2019 hotel is booked.

For 2018, the motor coaches are under contract, events firming up. Looking to move convention room at the hotel and use it for the reception. Would like to stay in that room for entire week. Bus trips moved up about 15 minutes at request of the bus company.

Lots of opportunity to set up trains. Monday registration running trains. From 5 to 7 will be having fun running trains. Box lunch on Tuesday and Wednesday. Narrated tour of Gettysburg with a narrator on each bus. Film and cyclorama included in the tour. In the afternoon, we will do Steam into History. Thursday will be open day as in the past. No Trivia contest that night. On Friday, B & O museum with train ride and a box lunch. Train ride is a charter. Museum will have a guided tour. Have to break us into two groups.

Saturday will be a little different. Will not do an event away from the hotel. Membership meeting at the beginning of the day, then build your own layout. Saturday afternoon will have an ice cream party. We will host a special BTOC drag race using special run BTO locos.

Prizes are going to be spectacular. Saturday night is the banquet with special raffles. We have been able to put a small deposit down on some of the events. Looks like the cost will be pretty standard. Possible local houses open on open day. Discussion on putting 1,180 feet to go around the pound. Can put the track on the edge of the sidewalk. Need a letter exhorting all parties on damage to hardware and property. Have a video of the potential path. Could this be put it on the web site? (No decision was made during the meeting.)

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

Motion approved

Old Business

1. Membership Drive

- Recruit a Buddy Program— Only have five for this year. Of thirteen from 2015, three did not renew.



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2. Club Merchandise

- 2017 club cars – USA has sent out first batch. They look very good. Down to a few left. The quantity left could be a reason for an email blast to members.
- Shanty- They are also shipping. 60% have been sold. All printing on one side only. Comes with extra hardware. Ladders, steps, light, bottle of smoke, wheel barrel, step ladders, roof fittings. Great graphics by Bob. USA did a great job.

New Business

- We have a need for a Trifold handout for distribution at train shows. Bob Simonyi put a trifold together which was distributed to board members prior to the meeting.
- Charles Bartel made a Motion to get this completed and released, followed by putting it on the web site. Will look at final review and approval by email.
- Discussion on monthly drawing
 - possibly centralizing the storage location of the prizes
 - coordinating the process of selecting the winner
 - pinpointing the prize item
 - shipping out on a timely basis
 - assuring that the correct information is given for publishing in the BTO/website

Seems to work well so long as the inventory list is correct. That is where there has been a problem in the past. Need to improve communication. Want to make sure that the prize gets shipped before name gets published. Suggestion that only one person has inventory for the monthly drawing. Have only had three or four hiccups over time. We need to talk about it more to make members more aware of this activity. Seems to be something that needs to be kept going.

Discussion of referencing in the BTO Teya Copley-Woods article that appeared in Garden Railroading. Bill will write something up and Bob will put it in the magazine.

Adjournment

Move to adjourn: John Groot made motion.

The meeting adjourned at 9:09pm EST

Minutes prepared by Charles Bartel, Secretary

Minute's submittal for approval by William A. Harryman Date: October 24, 2017
Bill Harryman, President

October 27, corrections made under old business per Dave Snow.