

# Big Train Operator Club, Inc. 2014 Membership Meeting

Comfort Suites Hershey, PA

June 22, 2014

## Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by President William Harryman at 800a EDT. Roll Call indicated the following BOD members present: Ralph E. Wilcox (Director Emeritus), John Groot (Treasurer), Jon Molesworth (Vice-President), Rich Dulski (Vice-President), Scott Fowler (Director), Ralph S. Wilcox (Director), Bob Somogyi (BTO Editor), David Snow (Membership), Marshall Adams (Secretary)

## Secretary Report

Minutes from the Santa Fe June 26, 2013 meeting were approved.

## Treasurer Report

The Treasurer reviewed the Balance Sheet and the Profit and Loss report as of June 20, 2014. The balance sheet indicates assets of \$31,250.99. The Profit and Loss report showed a net income YTD of \$3,262.43. The Treasurer mentioned there was still approximately \$7,000 due in convention expenses. The Treasurer had the 2013 tax report available for review. The members approved the Treasurer report.

## Membership Report

Membership as of 6/21/14 is 398. The Membership Chair advised the board and the members that 2015 would be the 10<sup>th</sup> year since the Club's name change from LGBMRRRC to BTOC. The board will take this into consideration when making plans for all 2015 merchandise. The members approved the Membership Report.

## BTO Editor Report

The Editor stated that costs have stabilized and have remained consistent since converting the magazine to digital four years ago. The Editor stated Ag Press has been a very good partner to the Club. BTO 153 (Fall) will contain detail coverage of the Hershey Convention. The Editor noted he is still in need of photos for the 2015 calendar. The Editor requested all members to send him train related pictures for the BTO and also noted that articles are always appreciated. A question was raised regarding the availability of extra copies of the BTO and BTOC literature for members to distribute at shows and events. The editor stated that BTOC info can be sent to any and all events by contacting him directly via email. Please allow a couple weeks advance notice to assure on-time delivery. The members approved the Editor report.

## Convention Report

There are 58 registrations for the Hershey convention following several cancellations. There are still four convention cars available for sale.

North Conway hotel is under contract and the convention chair will begin organizing events following the Hershey convention. A request was made to publish the departure and return times for events in advance.

Bob Somogyi gave a presentation for a Northern Indiana 2016 convention that will focus on HLW. More information will be available at North Conway and in future BTOs.

## Old Business

1. 2014 Club Car
  - As of 6/22/14 there are 3 blue S4s available for sale.
2. Membership Committee
  - All Membership has been an active point of discussion at each BOD meeting since Santa Fe.
  - The President challenged each member to recruit a train buddy to join the club.
  - Jon Molesworth has advertised North Conway to NH and VT clubs in hopes of recruiting new members.

- The President encouraged members to use the BTOC Facebook account to promote the club.
- A suggestion was made to include 'LGB' in some form on the home page of the website and on Facebook to assist searches by inquiring G scalers and make past members aware that the club is alive and on-going.
- A question was raised from the floor if the club could advertise on free sections in train magazines.
- A suggestion was raised by the floor to provide retailers with BTOC literature.
- A suggestion was made to see if PIKO would insert a BTOC membership card into their starter sets.
- The editor noted that info and forms are available in PDF format on the club's website.
- A request was made by a member to look into an informational booth at the World's Greatest Train Shows. Member to supply the board with contact info.
- A request was made to advertise at the York shows. The member offered to bear the costs associated with this effort.
- The board appreciated the input from the members and committed to follow-up with each of the suggestions at the next board meeting.

#### New Business

1. 2015 Club Car
  - The board announced a USA Light and Power car to compliment the BTOC work train.
2. 2015 North Conway Convention Car
  - The board approved an HLW coach or baggage car to compliment the coaches from the past two conventions.
3. The president appealed to the members for new BOD candidates as the board is currently operating two members down.

#### Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 906a EDT.

Minutes prepared by Marshall Adams, Secretary

Minutes approved by \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

William Harryman, President