

**Carolina Southern Division
Annual Business Meeting
Minutes
Hunter Acres Baptist Church
January 20, 2018**

Superintendent Alan Hardee called the meeting to order at 9:42AM. Clerk Fred Miller confirmed that the 15 attendees are NMRA members and the necessary quorum of 12 has been met.

Treasurer John Stevens was not able to attend due to illness. Superintendent Hardee reported that the Treasurer indicated by phone that the Division's ending balance for 2017 was approximately \$5,000.

Clerk Fred Miller reported the current Division membership is 121, a net gain of 15 members since last year. The Division's subsidized Rail Pass membership includes 14 Rail Pass members. The Clerk's report is attached.

Gil Brauch gave his report on the Brookford Project. Guest attendance was again lower this past year, down to 126. Costs for publicity for the monthly Open House is now prohibitive so no advertising has been available. Train Town hosted the annual CSD swap meet and open house for National Model Railroad Month in November. About 33 people attended but CSD membership participation in the swap meet was limited. Gil Brauch's annual report is attached.

Gil Brauch gave his report on the CarolinaSouthern.org website and the Division's Facebook page. No major changes have been made to the look and feel of the website. Gil reminded everyone to check the calendar page for date, time and location of upcoming events. A more detailed report is attached.

Editor Fred Miller reported that he edited and published 6 issues of the Brass Pounder this year, each with an average of 9 pages. Fred made the usual editor's appeal for material to publish and thanked the half-dozen members who contributed articles. Fred noted that the Nov-Dec issue was his last so a new Brass Pounder Editor will be needed. Further details can be found in Fred's attached Annual Report.

Dave Chance gave us his report on the NMRA Achievement program, copy attached. He indicated that the Division's performance in awards was better this year. Five AP Certificates were issued and four merit Awards were earned. Dave congratulated Neal Anderson for his achievements in AP certificates, with only two more necessary to gain his MMR.

The 2017 RMU was again held at The Christ the King Lutheran Church on South Tryon Street in Charlotte. The net profits were lower than the previous year due to lower attendance. However, the profits from the White Elephant table were great, primarily due to a generous donation of materials. Doug Algire reported that next Saturday, January 27th will be this year's RMU event with over 50 attendees already registered. It is anticipated a dozen more will sign up at the event. Doug indicated that next year's RMU (2019) will again be at the same venue on January 19th.

President Alan Hardee disclosed the material from the Division's Annual Report that he had prepared for the MER. This is a NMRA Region required report summarizing the activities of the division. A copy of that report is attached.

Roy Becker, representing the Nomination Committee, took leadership of the meeting for nominations for the one open Director-2020 position, the Superintendent, Assistance Superintendent, Treasurer and Clerk. Roy reported that Alan Hardee and John Stevens would again run for their positions of Superintendent and Treasurer. Jack Monette would run for Assistant Superintendent and Ed Gumphrey would run for Clerk and Larry Paffrath will run for the Director-2021 position. No nominations were offered from the floor. An election motion for accepting all of these members was presented by Gil Brauch and seconded by Jack Haynes. All members voted their approval.

Alan Hardee indicated that Scott Perry will continue in the appointed position of Program Coordinator. Ed Gumphrey indicated he would take on the Brass Pounder Editor role. Gil Brauch (Webmaster), Dave Chance (AP Chair), Doug Algire (RMU Chair) and Nancy Campbell (Membership) will continue their roles another year.

Dave Chance described a bit about his new responsibility as the AP Chair for the MER. He indicated that this would put significant demands on his time and suggested that another member might join him in fulfilling the division's AP Chair responsibilities. Neal Anderson offered his services as an assistant AP Chair, and was appointed as AP Co-Chairman.

Alan Hardee led a discussion on the Division potentially hosting the 2020 Mid-Eastern Region Annual Convention. The MER has extended an invitation to the Division since it has been twenty years since that hosting responsibility has fallen to CSD. Although Alan reported that he received a positive reaction to an informal poll, many members expressed concern about the ability of the division to muster the necessary participation in the many responsibilities of hosting a convention. There was a general consensus that a full delineation of all the committee and helper positions was needed along with a second attempt to reach out to the membership to establish actual volunteers. It was noted that help in developing an understanding of the various responsibilities would be available from the MER as well as former convention chairs of other divisions. Gil Brauch presented a motion (seconded by Neal Anderson) that the Board be given the responsibility to pursue the details of the division's convention hosting project and ascertain necessary participation. The members present voted in the affirmative to this motion.

At 11:54 Gil Brauch presented a motion to adjourn the meeting. This was seconded by Fred Miller and the members approved.

After adjournment, Fred Miller, outgoing CSD Clerk, turned over CSD files, archives, templates and other material to the newly elected CSD Clerk.

Respectfully submitted by
Fred Miller, MMR
Former CSD Clerk, and
Ed Gumphrey
Newly elected CSD Clerk

Attachments: Annual Reports