

MINUTES - CAROLINA SOUTHERN DIVISION ANNUAL MEETING Saturday, January 21, 2006

Meeting was held at the Boxcar Grille in Claremont, NC, called to order at 10:30 AM by Rick Knight, Superintendent.

Sixteen Division members were present along with ten guests. The Clerk declared sufficient attendance to conduct the Annual Business Meeting.

Fred Miller, Clerk, presented the minutes from the last Annual Business meeting. The minutes were accepted as read.

Rick Knight announced some appointments to Division offices: Gil Brauch, Webmaster;
Michele Chance, Newsletter Editor; Dave Chance Achievement Program Chair.

Dick Bronson, Treasurer, presented the financial status for last year. The starting balance was \$308.15; income for the year was \$0.00; there were no expenditures; leaving a closing balance of \$308.15.

Reports:

Gil Brauch asked members to contribute items for the web site including photos of Division Activities, events, or tours. Email them to him.

Michele asked that anyone planning to submit articles to her for the newsletter that wanted AP credit should contact her in advance and she would help to ensure that the article met AP requirements.

Achievement program:

Fred reported that Gil Brauch had been awarded the AP Author Certificate

Membership:

Jack Parker suggested that someone else take over responsibilities as Membership Chairman since he does not have access to electronic communications that is often used to contact people now. Rick responded that he thought Jack has been doing a superb job of welcoming new people into the hobby and representing the Division. The members present strongly supported that opinion. Rick indicated that he would work to provide any support Jack wanted to utilize resources he did not have himself.

Superintendent:

Rick passed out copies of a schedule of Railroad events in 2006. There was some discussion about the upcoming train show at Cabarrus Arena. He pointed out that our next Division meeting would be at the Lancaster & Chester RR. The location of the May meeting had not been determined. Jack Monette offered to host it. Martin Oakes said that the July meeting at his house will be July 15. Rick passed out a flyer about the upcoming auction of model RR items from the John Armstrong estate in Harrisburg. He reminded everyone that the current issue of Scale Rails has registration information for the National Convention in Philadelphia, hosted by our own MER. Because MER is hosting the National, there will be no regional convention this year. The James River Division will host the 2006 MER Business Meeting in the fall. The Valley Forge Railroad Prototype Modelers will meet March 24-26 at the Desmond Great Valley Hotel in Malvern, PA, details at www.phillynmra.org .

Old Business:

Fred Miller said that in revising the bylaws last year to be compatible with the National changes in regional and division membership, he had neglected to include a change to designate a quorum be a certain number of members instead of a percentage. This was necessary since under the new rules, many National members have become Division members, but are not active in the Division. After discussion, it was moved to accept his suggested number of twelve members with the usual provision that there would be advance notice of any business meeting. The motion was seconded and approved on a voice vote.

Elections:

Jack Haynes was nominated for Division Clerk by Fred Miller and seconded by Michele Chance. There were no other nominations. He was elected by a voice vote.

Dave Chance nominated Fred Miller for the open Director's position. Seconded by Michele. There were no other nominations. He was elected on a voice vote.

Other Business:

Karen Bronson passed out copies of the Our State magazine that contains articles and photos about NC railroads including, of course, a CSX train passing under the Waxhaw bridge.

Meeting adjourned at 11:30.

The meeting was followed by round-robin introductions and an excellent lunch served by the Boxcar Grille. The afternoon was filled by a group tour of three great home layouts in the area. Our thanks to the tour hosts Gil Brauch, Bob Weaver, and Scott Teague for welcoming us into their homes and having some great modeling on display.

Submitted 1/26/06, JBH