

Minutes
Carolina Southern Division Officers Meeting
Wednesday, May 26, 2010

The meeting was held at 7:30 p.m. at Fred Millers condo, Charlotte, NC.

Attendees:

Steve August, Superintendent
Bob Halsey, Asst Superintendent
Jack Haynes, Clerk
Fred Miller, Director
Jim Rager, Director

Steve opened the meeting at 7:30

Incorporation:

Steve passed around the incorporation documents for review and signatures. He will send them to Dick Bronson for his signature and submitting to the state with a check.

501(c)3 Status:

Bob Halsey needs to do some research on requirements. He will organize a committee. He expects that it will take some time to gather the information required for the application. He will need history of activities such as Boy Scouts and educational programs. Steve will look for Div 13 application materials for model.

New web site:

The url will be carolinasouthern.org. First page has streamlined menus and features upcoming activities with a link to detail. Steve will contact Jim Allen for Division to pick up ownership and payment for domain name.

National NMRA members-only web site:

The NMRA is setting up a members-only portion of its web site. They have asked newsletter editors for permission to include selected articles from Division newsletters in that area. The Division Board approved granting this permission to NMRA for articles in the Brass Pounder.

There was some discussion about the possibility of setting up a similar members-only section of the Division web site. There were no decisions on what material might be appropriate for such a section.

Calendar for 2010:

Steve said that the Division should have more than one activity per month in 2010. David Ward wants to hold "classes" regularly; maybe plan for July and August. Rick Knight can reserve the scout hut near Huntersville the 3rd Saturday of every month if we want to use it for activities. Steve said that he had an understanding with David that the Division wants at least a \$5/person registration fee for the classes in addition to any materials fees.

Fred pointed out that as our Treasury builds up, we need to consider what we are going to use the money for. We need to use it in ways that will support our non-profit status and

501(c)3 application. Some ideas were offered, such as donation of train sets to childrens' hospital wards, homes, or Ron McDonald House. We will work on more ideas and look for suggestions.

Steve still has some Ops Weekend shirts from last year. About 10 t-shirts with just the Ops Weekend wording and the rest with the 2009 date. Board decided to use them as door prizes at future events.

Steve has asked David Ward to help with this year's Ops Weekend. Steve is trying to not be chair of any events so he can keep tabs on everything the Division is doing.

Also need chair and committee for RMU. Bob will see who was involved last year and ask Joe Howard for suggestions. He will also provide Jack with an item for BP looking for members to help out.

Bob also pointed out that we need a Director candidate for Roy Becker's position next January. Other directors will work on that.

The Division will be sponsoring a Train Show next November as an attempt to get a better train show in Charlotte and make some money. It will be at the Hickory Grove UMC near Hickory Grove and N Sharon Amity Roads in east Charlotte. It will include commercial vendors as well as exhibits. There would be up to 80 tables at \$15-\$20 per table.

There was discussion about the Division hosting the MER Convention in 2013. 2010 is in New Jersey, 2011 in in Raleigh, and 2012 toward the north, so 2013 should be back toward the southern side of the Region. We will need a core of 10-12 people to work on it. We need to decide in time for this fall's convention.

Bob Halsey is looking into getting a table at the Metrolina Train Show in June to promote the NMRA and the Division.

Fred Miller said that many Divisions have a regular schedule of meetings and clinics, often monthly at one or just a couple of regular locations. Some have these on weekday evenings. Should we try this? Jim Rager offered to put together a draft survey to see what kind of activities and schedules the membership would be interested in.

Bob asked if the Division would be interested in building a layout for the HobbyTown shop in Mooresville. They would want Lionel around the outside and HO inside. The store would provide materials needed. They would want it by October for the Christmas season. We would need to recruit workers to be sure we could meet the commitment.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30

Respectfully submitted
Jack Haynes
Division Clerk