Minutes of the CSD Board Meeting - June 6, 2014

Present: Larry Paffrath, Roy Becker, Gil Brauch, John Stevens, Jack Haynes, and Morgan Feldon

With the resignation of Rick Knight, Larry Paffrath is acting superintendent. Larry has communicated extensively with the board after this news to collect impressions and share his concerns to make an informed decision.

We reviewed the CSD Bylaws regarding Article VI: Officers. Gil put a motion and Jack seconded the nomination of Larry to serve out as Superintendent until the 2015 Annual Meeting. Larry expressed concern at accepting the position if it would impact RMU which Larry is also responsible for. We then discussed the potential rotation of board positions in future years, and delved further into the roles and responsibilities of RMU and possibilities for managing workload. Larry accepted the position. It's unanimous.

As per our bylaws, the board can fill the position of Assistant Superintendent until the next annual meeting where the position will be elected. Gil put a motion and Roy seconded to approach Rusty Doss to accept the position of Assistant Super. The motion was unanimous.

Discussion of what if any action we need to take about the MER bypassing the CSD, and concerns about the NMRA insurance program. Where does our responsibility as a Division to protect or notify layout owners who are members of our group end? It is our responsibility to notify layout owners of our understanding of the NMRA Bylaws. At this point, we are going to move on and not get into the politics and further debate.

Gil stressed the importance of keeping up a schedule of events including monthly meetings/clinics, working further on the Brookford layout, as well as keeping up our existing schedule which includes RMU, the Swap Meet, Annual Picnic, etc. We also plan to approach local layout operators and consider an organized Open House on a single day later this year with an enjoyable, non-frantic timetable suitable for carpooling. This is separate from our plans to have a rail operations weekend later next year.

Roy suggested RMU Extension classes which would feature either single courses or a handful of courses on a scheduled day. These could be longer than an hour to allow more in-depth hands-on work and discussion. Larry talked a bit about the surveys from RMU and what kind of classes we should consider for an extension class as well as next year's RMU day. We will also ask some questions on RMU 2015's survey to gauge interest in extension courses on a possible quarterly basis.

John mentioned the CSD budget. The raffles held at the monthly meeting were a good source of income for the club. The Brookford Open House donations take care of most of those costs.

Before the end of this year, we intend to do the Picnic at Jack Parker's (last year was Sept 21), Brookford Open House on November 8th with a potential nearby layout visit, and other organized layout visits.

Larry asked if we are going to present as a club at the Metrolina show on June 21st. We would ask for two tables with the Switching Puzzle and Timesaver. We also discussed the Larry Lau library, checkout procedures and usage, and whether it would fit at Brookford. Brett at Hobby Town will be carrying Lionel and would like to see more Lionel in our layout at the Hobby Town location. We discussed how often the layout is in use and whether we ought to invest time in updating or revising the layout to meet this request.

Larry will communicate with the MER specifically the editor of the regional newsletter to notify them of the recent changes in the CSD board.

Meeting concluded. Notes are presented for review/comment/editing. Complete notes will be stored in the Clerk's file. A summary will be prepared for Brass Pounder.

Morgan Feldon CSD Clerk