

Highland Park Society of Model Railroad Engineers, Inc.
854 Broadway Avenue, San Gabriel, CA 91776 (626) 2875-1031

July 10, 2019, 8:00 PM, at club house

Annual Meeting

- I. CALL TO ORDER. The meeting was called to order by General Superintendent Gerry Willis at 2000 (8:00 PM).
- II. QUORUMS AND PROXIES.
 - a. Members Present: Gary Ashcraft, Cliff Bender, William Chappell, Pete DeBeers, David Dodds, Jerry Duncan, Dave Flynn, Jim Keena, Arie Korporaal, Ron Merkel, Ray Olesen, Chris Rippy, Jack Ross, Lindsay Smith, Steve Smith, Marc Thrasher, Bruce Turner, Gerry Willis. The Chair declared a quorum present.
 - b. Members Present by Proxy: Jim Keena gave his proxy to Gerry Willis.
 - c. Non-voting Members Present: Vel Randic, Bryan Hunnell,
- III. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA. Exhibit 1 is an agenda prepared by Gerry Willis for this meeting. Marc Thrasher requested adding a "Communications" item to New Business. Bill Chappell requested a . "Tool Maintenance" item in New Business.
- IV. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING. The Chief Clerk had distributed the Minutes by Internet but only a few admitted to reading them. We had only two copies available for the meeting. It was noticed that the minutes reported in error, Bryan Hunnell had returned to full membership. He has not. The Minutes were approved with the correction without dissent.
- V. MEMBERSHIP. Vel Randic was present for the second meeting and we should elect him to full membership at the next meeting.
Exhibit 2 is a list of the current membership.
- VI. FINANCIAL REPORT. Exhibit 3 is the Financial Report submitted through the Internet for this meeting by the Paymaster. The Exhibit also reports dues owed by some members, The last page is the current and proposed Budgets for the coming year. Dave Flynn requested a change to the Electrical budget to \$200.00. It was moved to approve the amended budget and there was no dissent.
- VII. DEPARTMERNT REPORTS.
 - a. Branch Line and Narrow Gauge. There is no Department Head. There has been a little work. The Narrow-Gauge branch runs only DCC.
 - b. Electrical. Dave Flynn has been working on the Roundhouse software. Steve Smith has been working on the new Castlegate Yard. They installed 12V switch machines, but they should be 24V machines.
 - c. Signals. Ron Marcel was invited to be the Signals Department Head and he accepted. They will be adding block markers in the scenery so that we can run in the dark.
 - d. Track. Bill Chappell reported they were adding a throw out switch for the New Castlegate Yard. The Vista yard throw-out for the caboose track West end and it'd rotary switch have been unreliable. The problem at block 271/272 appears to have been repaired. Several members emphatically recommended we develop some reliable switch machines. In fact we have some that were made by the Late Pat Keegan.
 - e. Del Mar City. Pete DeBeers has been working on the trolley tracks. He wants the buildings repaired or replaced and lighting completed before he can begin installation of trolley wire.
 - f. Operations. Gerry Willis asked Steve Smith to set up some instruction sessions on operating DCC. Marc Thatcher has reported some members do not operate DCC locomotives. Because there is a real possibility that duplicate can occur It was suggested that we assign members a prefix for equipment IDs rather than side numbers. We should clear Consist Numbers, i.e., set CV19 = 0, when we quit a session. Steve will do more in coordination DCC operations.
- VIII. OLD BUSINESS

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Executive Board Meeting

- a. Termite Control. Gerry reminded us that the special assessment for Termite Control is past due.
- b. Computer Replacement. Once more, Dave Flynn reported our current computer is out of date and the software is no longer supported by the manufacturer. He would recommend replacing it with an IMAC-4K. It was estimated to cost \$1300.00 and tax. Since the computer is used to support the DCC programming and some occasional internet access, most members were not ready to replace it at this meeting. The motion was defeated 3 for 9 against.
- c. Castlegate Yard Installation. It was suggested that Bryan Hunnell install a video camera so that we can see trains entering and leaving the Castlegate Yard. He reports that there is wire and cameras available.
- d. Replacement of lights, scaffolding, camera. Chris Rippy has been leading the change of the overhead lighting of the layout. He donated the scaffolding to replace the old planks. Dave Flynn purchased new fixtures and the new lighting can be dimmed by a control that will be stored in the CTC room. Chris also reported that the roof is leak free.

IX. NEW BUSINESS.

- a. Tool Maintenance. Bill Chappell reported he had to clean up our table saw because someone spilled a drink and the saw guide was rusted into the slot. He recommended that if you spill, CLEAN IT UP! If you saw or drill, cleanup your saw dust.
- b. Communications. Marc Thrasher discussed operations during open house and other events. We should not be hollering across the room. Since the DCC controllers are mobile should we get a radio and headsets? Let's try to use the phones since the instruments are distributed around the layout. They may try using a head set but I find them tiring for the Dispatcher to use a head set and phones. Marc wants the DCC addresses at the Dispatch Station so we can call trains and give the Operator the address.
- c. Layout running, air conditioning expense. Bryan Hunnell and I will make up a check list for opening and closing the club house so that the HVAC unit is turned off at closing. Since our club is a commercial building there is no discount like we have on our households.
- d. Open House Dates. We will have a Fall Open House on Saturday and Sundays November 2, 3, 9, &10. We will also open November 6 for our usual Wednesday Night. October 30 would be a timetable operation, but we will use this fifth Wednesday to check readiness for the Open House. We will choose a Spring Open House again. We had a poor response to the June Open House, but we did little advertisements and we must get visitors used to coming to us.
- e. Superintendent Resignation. Gerry Willis has announced that he is leaving California and after checking the By-laws, we called an Executive Board Meeting to select Temporary Superintendent immediately following this meeting.

X. ANNOUNCEMENTS.

- a. The next quarterly meeting will be October 9,2019 at the clubhouse at 2000

XI. ADJOURNMENT. We adjourned at 2142.

Exhibits

1. Agenda for July 10, 2019
2. List of Members
3. Financial Report and Budget
4. Superintendent's Resignation

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Steve Smith called the meeting to order at 2150. We agreed that the Temporary Superintendent should be Steve Smith. We asked Marc Thrasher to be the Temporary Assistant Superintendent; he accepted.

We will have an Election of Officers at the next Quarterly Meeting.

We adjourned the Meeting at 2200.

Lindsay Smith

Chief Clerk