

**Minutes from the General Meeting, January 8, 2020 at the clubhouse**

1. CALL TO ORDER. General Superintendent Steve Smith Sr. Called the meeting to order at 2000
2. QUORUMS AND PROXIES.
  - a. Members Present: Gary Ashcroft, Bill Chappell, Pete DeBeers, David Dodds, Jerry Duncan, Dave Flynn, Paymaster Jim Keena, Vel Randic, Chris Rippy, Jack Ross, GS Steve Smith, Chief Clerk Lindsay Smith, Marc Thrasher, Bruce Turner.
  - b. Members Present by Proxy: Ari Korporaal.
  - c. Non-voting Members Present: Bryan Hunnell.
  - d. A quorum was declared by the chair.
3. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA. At New Business, Marc thrasher asked to add Open House Food and we may discuss Suspended Members Privileges. The GS will discuss Membership.
4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING. The July 2018 Meeting Minutes were approved without dissent.
5. MEMBERSHIP. We are currently showing eighteen (18) Full Members, two (2) Honorary Members and five (5) Sustaining members.
6. FINANCIAL REPORT. Jim Keena distributed copies of a short report that listed the balances in the bank accounts as follows:

a. Business Economy Checking 1002	\$3,492.95
b. Regular Savings 0003	\$1,505.95
c. Regular Savings 738	\$821.93
d. 9 Mo. Risk Free CD 1227	<u>\$3,240.25</u>
Total	\$9,060.64

Jim does not have Quicken installed on the new computer.
7. DEPARTMENT REPORTS
  - a. Branchline and Narrow Gauge. No report.
  - b. Construction and Facilities. Chris Rippy reported the roof did not leak in the recent heavy rains. He is still working at enlarging the entry step.
  - c. Track. Dave Flynn reported he is working on the Castlegate Yard and track switches and switch machines. Bill Chappell is cutting the frog wires in the switches. The DCC Boosters will require separate circuit breakers since the new units are not delivered in the circuit.
  - d. Standards. Jim Keena reported the Open House and recent runs have had few breakdowns. It proves our Standards and three-year inspection protocol is working. Wheel cleaning is still required more frequently.
  - e. Scenery. Vel Randic has repaired some ballast and ground cover.
  - f. Signals. No report.
  - g. Track. Bill Chappell reported that the Castlegate East ladder is being installed. See the comment in *c. Track* above.
  - h. Del Mar. Pete DeBeers stated that he has trolley wire poles ready, but we must complete the track and scenery before wiring the overhead wires.
  - i. Open House. Steve Smith commented that the June event was under attended probably because we did not advertise enough. The November event was well attended but we could have enjoyed participation of more members. He thanked the people who made it work. We will have our usual November Open House with other clubs during the NMRA Month. We will also be open for the LA Division NMRA Convention in September. We pray for new members and thus we should publicize our events to the public.

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

- j. Video. This title will be removed from the Agenda for the Future. The cameras were installed and help operate the layout.
  - k. Operations. Jim Keena announced we would have Scheduled Operations on the following Fifth Wednesdays. January 29<sup>th</sup>, April 26<sup>th</sup>, July 29<sup>th</sup>, September 30<sup>th</sup>, and December 30<sup>th</sup>.
8. OLD BUSINESS. It was announced that the old computer will have JMRI installed to program locomotives and DCC processors.
9. NEW BUSINESS. Steve Smith initiated a discussion about the future of our club and layout. He pointed out that people model what they see. Old guys saw the passenger traffic as most interesting; today folks only see long container and freight trains. We oldsters had relatively short passing sidings and switched cars to industries. Train stations are historic. Humps are being removed. What should we do to make our layout attractive to modern modelers? Can we add a loop track at Vista? Do we have goals for the future?
- Steve would have us convert to DCC only.
  - Steve will set up some operating exchanges with other local clubs.
  - Chris Rippy will be our banquet speaker on the 14<sup>th</sup> at Villa Catrina, 251 N. Santa Anita, Arcadia. We should make reservations with Jim Keena; the fare is \$25.
  - Bryan Hunnell pointed out that our Treasury reserve for the building is low because we have improved the lighting, controlled termites and repaired some other spots. Jim Keena received some donations which may bwe reported in the next meeting.
10. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ADJOURN. Jim Keena announced he will be cruising on January 29<sup>th</sup> for our operations. He suggests we plan to host the NMRA Visitors on Saturday, September 12<sup>th</sup>.
- Bill Chappell moved to adjourn at 2130 (9:30 PM).