

North Georgia Live Steamers Membership Meeting Minutes January 10, 2015

I. Call to order

Norm Wizner called the meeting to order at 1:07pm at Hawthorne Suites.

Attendees list was circulated.

One guest, Paul Lator, was recognized.

Minutes: the minutes from the last meeting were read. A motion to accept was made, seconded, and passed.

Treasury: The Treasurer reported the end-of-year (EOY) balance for 2013 was \$6,601.92. The EOY balance of 2014 was \$9,893.98. 2014 receipts were \$10,831.50 with expenses of \$7,541.40. Donates and dues collected at the Christmas party amounted to about \$540. A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve the report.

II. Old Business

- a) Elections. Ballots were distributed to vote for 3 board-of-directors members. The winners were Bill Leahy, Berta Adkins, and Peter Craymer.
- b) The out-going Board of Directors was thanked for their contributions to the club. A special thank you was given to Lavay Sheldon as he has asked for a reduced role due to health issues.

III. New Business

- a) 2015 Run Dates: after some discussion, it was decided to have 6 run days in 2015. The dates selected are: April 18, May 9, June 6, July 11, August 15, and October 24. There will be no run in November. It was felt that ridership would be quite low by that late in the year.
- b) The Treasurer was reminded to send a check to the city to renew our lease.
- c) Norm asked all attendees to send a revised list of all equipment each member intends to operate at the club track for insurance purposes.
- d) Norm attended the annual State of the City meeting in Conyers. NGLS was well represented in the presentations. Everyone at the city is pleased with what we are doing.
- e) Projects for 2015
 - a. Electricity to Container and Steaming Bays – highest priority on the list. Need to trench and hookup. Licensed electrician needed to do the hookup. Norm and George working on material list. Motion was made, seconded, and passed to authorized expenses to get the line installed.
 - b. Signals – Dale wants to help us get it working. Need to have crew ready to help Dale do final installations and to be trained how to operate and maintain the system. It is likely that Dale will be moving to Chattanooga club.
 - c. Steaming Bays – electric needs to be re-done to meet code. Water and air need to be checks for availability.

- d. Track Repair – couple of places have been identified as trouble spots. Investigation and remediation needed.
 - e. Equipment List – discussed earlier.
 - f. Fund Raising – gold tourney was primary income but no longer being done. Need operating funds for insurance at a minimum. Expansion (track, electricity, etc.) will not be cheap. All ideas are welcomed. Corporate sponsors may be one avenue.
 - g. Canopy – we obtained the steaming bay cover that was formerly at Bob Baggett's track. Plan is to erect near picnic table and use a part of Breeze Way effort.
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- f) Piedmont Train Show – March 14. Need to set up our display with video, displays, literature, etc. Membership drive. Suggestion made to include a “what you get with your membership” poster. When joining, we normally give new member a hat, shirt, and name badge. Plus, as a member, the member is entitled to be operate club equipment (after training). Could be a good enticement to get new members.
 - g) Track Expansion – Now that restrooms have been built we need to start planning and work on the new outer loop track to the relocated passenger station. Will need about 4,000 feet of rail plus 10 switches. We have points for switches but need frogs. Need to check with MidSouth to see if they have any rail available and at what price. Captain Boots in Florida also sells rail but the rail-head profile is slightly different. Would prefer not to use it if possible. Total cost of expansion is estimated to be \$10,000.
 - h) The secretary was asked to send a letter of thanks to Shawn for the surveying work he did for us.
 - i) Paul Lator, a guest at the meeting, has applied for membership. All fees have been paid. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to accept his membership application. Welcome Paul!!
 - j) It was reported that the New Years Day ad-hoc run was a success. Dan ran his new Mountain Car loco. Peter and family ran the coal burner. Wayne Lass stopped by to drop off Dave's equipment for loading into Dave's RV in preparation for Train Mountain in June. Dave and Lowell also ran locomotives. Marjean Levy and friends made several laps with her electric switcher. Other members that stopped by to chat included Snake Wright, Norm Wizner, and David Miracle. A good time was had by all.

Motion was made, seconded, and pass to adjourn at 2:44pm. The next meeting is February 7, 2015 at Hawthorne Suites.

Respectfully submitted,
Dave Levy, Secretary