

FRIENDS OF THE NEVADA STATE RAILROAD MUSEUM

VIRGINIA AND TRUCKEE DIVISION

P.O. Box 1330
Carson City, Nevada 89702



MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 10, 2009
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
NEVADA STATE RAILROAD MUSEUM
CARSON CITY, NEVADA

Call to Order – Meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM

Role Call – Present were Bill Kohler, Ron Allen, John Schilling, Barry Simcoe, Stan Cronwall, Darlene Berry, Peter Barton, Jerry Barth, and Kurt Dietrich. Absent and excused was Chris MacMahon. A quorum was established.

Minutes – Kurt Dietrich presented the minutes of the June 4, 2009 meeting to the Board. A motion to accept the Minutes was made by Ron Allen, seconded by Stan Cronwall. Motion passed.

Correspondence – Russ Tanner submitted a letter to the Treasurer, stating that Ron Dunlop donated the food for the 2009 Motorcar Training weekend. Kurt Dietrich stated that he will send a letter of appreciation on behalf of the Board.

Treasurer's Report – Darlene Berry, Treasurer, reported funds, July 31, 2009, as follows:

\$18,488.98 – Money Market

\$9,173.72 – Checking

\$0.00 – PayPal

\$720.82 – Bankcard

Report of Trustee Activity since the previous Regular Meeting –

An amount of \$53.73 was approved for McKeen Car exhaust equipment.

An amount of \$500 was approved for a rail drill.

An amount of \$3,556.80 was approved for a power washer.

OLD BUSINESS – STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Audit Committee – Barry Simcoe stated that he had not been able to find time to proceed.

Ron Allen stated that the Treasurer needs to provide information to a CPA in order to receive a quote for services.

Brick Sales Committee – Lanning Clifford reported that seven bricks have been sold since June.

Lanning stated that Keystone Masonry has not been able to set bricks. Ron Allen stated that they receive a comp membership, and therefore there may be a better contact at Keystone Masonry.

Lanning stated that the brick locate numbers has been painted over. Ron Allen suggested for Lanning to purchase replacement numbers at a local home improvement store.

Election Committee – Nancy Humphries stated that she sent correspondence regarding the terms of the current Board.

Finance Committee – John Schilling stated that he is currently gathering information, and that Russ Tanner and Bill Kohler will be meeting to discuss a budget.

Fund Raising Committee – Ron Allen stated that the V&T Commission made a donation to the Friends, for the security provided by its volunteers.

Interpretive Committee – No report.

Membership Committee – Susan Allen (not present) reported as of August 1, 2009, the following membership levels:

Seniors:	223
Individuals:	156
Family:	328
Senior Couple:	229
Sustaining:	71
Contributing:	18
Life Time:	4
Student:	8

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP: 1,039

Membership Fee Committee – No report.

Membership Recruitment Committee – Stan Cronwall stated that the Friends is down approximately 80 members. Stan stated that the members of the steam and motorcar crews are doing an excellent job recruiting.

Peter Barton stated that the Nevada State Museum membership is approximately 300, and that the Friends has done an excellent job with recruiting.

Kurt Dietrich suggested that the Friends may want to have a presence at the Reno Amtrak station. Kurt stated that the structure is currently owned by the City of Reno, and that he will make contact.

Operations – Motorcar – A discussion took place regarding scheduling issues.

Operations – Steam – Barry Simcoe stated that the steam trains have high ridership. Peter Barton stated that the steam trains have done well last fiscal year.

Barry stated that he is working with Karen Arendes regarding a replacement website for the crew schedule posting.

Kurt Dietrich suggested raffling a “Your Hand is on the Throttle” experience during the Symposium.

Promotions and Publicity – No Report

Sagebrush Headlight – Ron Allen asked Peter Barton to contact Dan Markoff concerning future newsletter deadlines.

Symposium Committee – No Report

Website Committee – Bill Kohler stated that Mike Dunn requested reimbursement for a purchased router for his home network. Bill stated that Mike purchased the router so that he can share his internet connection between the Friends provided laptop and his personal computer. Kurt Dietrich suggested that purchasing home networking equipment may not be a prudent use of the Friends’ funds. A discussion took place. Ron Allen, seconded by Stan Cronwall, made a motion to reimburse Mike Dunn the purchase price of the router, under the condition that requests for funding shall be pre-approved prior to the purchase of future equipment, and that the router remains the property of the Friends. Motion passed.

Youth Committee – Chris MacMahon (not present) submitted a report to the Board via electronic mail. Chris stated that he is becoming very frustrated that Frank Ackerman has not returned his calls. Peter Barton stated that staff time is very hard to come by, due to extensive cuts. Peter stated he will be in contact with Frank regarding this issue.

OLD BUSINESS – SELECT COMMITTEE REPORTS – None.

OTHER OLD BUSINESS – None.

NEW BUSINESS

Museum Funding – None.

Upcoming Events – Peter Barton stated that the Santa Train is coming up, as well as steam operation in support of Railfest, and a “movie in the park” showing of Ken Burn’s The National Parks.

Other New Business – Peter Barton stated that the Secretary of State’s Office has identified funding that may be redirected to the Department of Cultural Affairs. If so, the museum may return to full week operations. In regards to campus improvements, painting is complete, and the electrical service upgrades will occur shortly. The new phone system has been implemented, and the menus will be revamped.

Peter stated that after the McKean Car project, he would like to cycle the operating equipment through for shopping.

Bill Kohler stated that the turntable is in need of attention. Peter stated that he will discuss this issue with Chris DeWitt. Bill stated that volunteers may be able to assist with the repair work.

Stan Cronwall asked about the future possibility of electronic signs. Peter stated that the new electrical service would be able to accommodate.

A suggestion was made to modify the by-laws to change the meeting day of the Board of Trustees from the first Thursday of the month, to the first Monday of the month. Ron Allen stated that the by-laws currently require that the meeting must be within 14 days of the first Monday of the month, therefore modifying the by-laws would not be necessary.

Board or Trustees Member Comments – Ron Allen stated that the V&T will be operating on the recently constructed track during upcoming weekends.

General Comments – None.

Adjournment – Barry Simcoe made a motion to adjourn. Motion seconded by Kurt Dietrich. Meeting was adjourned at 7:28 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Kurt Dietrich, Secretary