

Annual Membership Meeting Minutes

Potomac Division, MER, NMRA

9:00 am 17 May 2025

Dranesville Community Room

- 1.** Call to Order at 09:15 am:
 - a.** Attending board members: E Little, L Stoermer, G Cassidy, A Belida, M Brechbiel, K Wilson, J Stanley, absent B. Schultheiss
 - b.** attending membership members: 29, plus attending Board members.
 - c.** All total 36
- 2.** Opening Remarks by Superintendent Ernie Little. Provided overview of the days events, time frames and what it has taken to get us to this point. Business meeting to be held at approximately 1 pm
- 3.** First round of clinics was a “what we’ve built and a short overview”. Provided by M. Brechbiel, G Cassidy, E Little, A Belida, L Stoermer. Jim Novaco shared an overview of a passenger car model that he constructed. All six models were then placed on display for closer review by those in attendance.
- 4.** Second round of simultaneous clinics presented after a short break. Presented by: Cassidy, Stoermer, Mallison, Philips, Benenati. See next Flyer edition for more details on these clinics.
- 5.** Lunch was provided as part of registration entrance fee.
- 6.** First afternoon group presentation presented by Scott Wahl on the Washington and Old Dominion Railroad history.
- 7.** Annual Business meeting called to order at 1245 pm.
- 8.** Quorum established.
- 9.** Adoption of the Agenda- adopted and approved.
- 10.** Approval of any outstanding Minutes of Past Meetings
 - a.** Minutes: last meeting minutes approved, with motion by Belida, and second by Novaco.
- 11.** Superintendent’s Report (Ernie Little)
 - i. Presented overview of the past year’s events. Clinic schedule and website updates. Asked for others to provide input as to clinic topics or actually giving a clinic.
 - ii. Thanked Steve Keller for sourcing the location today.
 - iii. Asked for someone from the Maryland area to assist in sourcing a location there. Has become increasingly difficult to find locations in MD. Open discussion ensued around this. Noted that costs in this region are not feasible in typical venues in general but not impossible.
 - iv. A member brought up topic of member dues: this is not possible, as NMRA provides \$4 per member per year to division. Registration/clinic fee at locations, such as what was done today to offset costs is acceptable.
 - v. Discussed non-profit status. Asked for volunteers to make a committee to begin work on this project for completion this year.
 - vi. 2025 Fall Potomac/James River Mini-Con: Nov 1 date and location set. request for clinicians.
 - b.** Web Master Report (Ernie Little). Provided overview of updates.

- c. National Convention in Richmond, VA 2028 or 2029 (Ernie Little)
Beginning initial planning on this. Mid-East Region and Tidewater and James River Division running point on this, with Potomac and others to provide support. Call for volunteers to get this going.
 - d. Thanked Bill Mosteller for handling eBay sales for Division of donated items that had not been sold at swap meet.
 - e. Superintendent Little provided an overview of the Achievement Program and members that have obtained certificates this year. Several questions from members were answered.
- 12. Senior Asst. Superintendent's Report (Alex Belida) no report
 - a. Flyer Editor/Publisher Report (Alex Belida) Reported Editions are read and commented by many other members outside the Division. Is well known for quality and content. Asked for more submissions.
- 13. Asst. Superintendent's Report (Ken Wilson) no report at this time.
- 14. Paymaster's Report (Jerry Stanley) Provided status of current accounts.
- 15. AP Coord. (Martin Brechbiel) presented four AP certificates today:
 - a. Greg Cassidy: scenery and electrical.
 - b. Lee Stoermer: chief dispatcher
 - c. James Hellwege: electrical
- 16. Old/Unfinished Business
 - a. 2025 Elections (Ernie Little) Election report provided.
 - i. 18 mailed out ballots and just 1 returned.
 - ii. 54 electronic ballots received of 237 sent out via Ballot Buddy email.
 - iii. Results:
 - 1. Ernie Little - superintendent
 - 2. Greg Cassidy - asst senior superintendent
 - 3. Lee Stoermer - clerk
 - b. Paymaster and other superintendent position come up next year. All are 2-year positions.
- 17. New Business
 - a. Announcement of clinics (Ernie Little) updates on website and clinics that are being made available in the coming months, including online Zoom clinics. Discussion on in person clinics at Stanley's Hobby Barn.
- 18. Good of the Order
 - a. Concerns/Questions. None further
 - b. Date, Time, and Place of next BOD meeting: via zoom, see website for link.
Tuesday 730 pm 17 June
 - i. Adjournment.
 - ii. Novaco makes motion
 - iii. Second by Wilson
 - iv. Motion passed. None opposed, at 1:05pm
- 19. And closed with final clinic presented by Brain Sheron on cleaning your layout.

Submitted: L Stoermer PD NMRA Clerk.