

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Potomac Division, MER, NMRA
7:30 PM, 16 April 2024

- 1. Call to Order**
 - a. Called to order at 7:30 PM by Superintendent Little.
- 2. Adoption of the Agenda**
 - a. Agenda adopted with no changes.
- 3. Approval of any outstanding Minutes of Past Meetings**
 - a. Minutes from prior meeting (March 2024) adopted.
- 4. Superintendent's Report (Ernie Little)**
 - a. **2023-2024 Event Planning update**
 - i. Need to get clinics scheduled for remainder of year.
 - b. **Web Master Report (Ernie Little)**
 - i. The website has been updated to include recent changes.
 - c. **Joint meet with Chesapeake Division**
 - i. The Chesapeake Division has decided to not hold a joint meet this year due to their schedule.
 - d. **MARPM/Potomac/James River/Chesapeake @BWI 2024**
 - i. Will be held September 5-8.
 - e. **Joint meet with James River Division**
 - i. Scheduled on proposed date of November 2nd. Jerry will get with church and see if they can accommodate.
- 5. Senior Asst. Vice Superintendent's Report (Alex Belida)**
 - a. **Flyer Editor/Publisher Report (Alex Belida)**
 - i. Alex reported that it was a slow month with fewer pages than recent issues. Only a few railway photos have come in so he added a 2nd photo feature repeating the most favored selections of the past year. Martin B has a small structure build article. Our Meet the Member is Chris Jones. There's a Mosteller short item aimed at boosting new member recruitment, an update on our fall square foot diorama contest. Waiting for Lee's text for a recap of the layout visits to Cam Geen and Sean hoyden. Greg Cassidy is doing a small item on model railroad scholarships. The news brief for May 1st is awaiting details of our May 4th meet clinics and tours.
- 6. Asst. Vice Superintendent's Report (Ken Wilson)**
 - a. **Layouts / Open Houses (Ken Wilson)**
 - i. Ken and Paul are working on getting layouts scheduled
- 7. Paymaster's Report (Jerry Stanley)**
 - a. Report emailed to BOD and accepted.
- 8. AP Coord. (Martin Brechbiel)**
 - a. Greg Cassidy received author and structure AP certificates.
 - b. Mike Byle received electrical AP certificate and Golden Spike certificate.
- 9. Old/Unfinished Business**

- a. **2024 Elections** (Ernie Little and Alex Belida) started April 15th, John Hoyt was to conduct it with Election Buddy however has been in the hospital so an alternative method of using SurveyHero is being used.
- b. **Update on G scale and Live steam**
 - i. Items from items from Ms. Adams are in storage at the hobby barn.
 - ii. Discussion on how to sell items.
- c. **2025 MER convention**
 - i. Email with questions sent to Region VP Gary Brown and answers received. Discussion of the item took place and it was decided to take it to the membership at the Annual meeting/meet on May 4th.
- d. **In person Annual Meeting on Sunday, May 4th**
 - i. The Fire Department Board approved the use of the Arcola VFD annex meeting hall.
 - 1. Discussion of planning for the event took place with a start time 8:30AM.
 - 2. Announcement needs to go out as soon as possible.
 - 3. Live meeting. (Short, <45 minutes)
 - 4. Need to schedule two clinicians.
 - 5. Two layouts for a layout tour have been secured – John Whittaker and Jim Rogers.

10. New Business

- a. Member issue email. Discussion of a recent issue involving a member expressing a concern about his email being used to distribute information.
- b. Our email policy was reviewed.
- c. Meet at Leisure World is on for July 13th. Planning needs to start as soon as possible.

11. Good of the Order

- a. Concerns/Questions.
 - i. None
- b. Date, Time, and Place of next BOD meeting.
 - i. 21 May 2024, 7:30 PM via Zoom.

12. Adjournment

- a. The meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.