

**Board of Directors Meeting minutes**  
**Potomac Division, MER, NMRA**  
**7:30 PM, 20 November 2023**

1. **Called to Order** at 7:31pm by Superintendent Little.
2. **Adoption of the Agenda.** Adopted unanimous.
3. **Approval of any outstanding Minutes of Past Meetings**
  - a. Minutes from prior meeting (October 2023): approved
4. **Superintendent's Report (Ernie Little)**
  - a. NMRA grant reimbursement received and deposited on 11/6/23.
  - b. NMRA rebate payments (3 of them last of 2022 and two for 2023) received and deposited on 11/6/2023.
  - c. 2023-2024 Event Planning update: discussion of the calendar of Division events for the next several months.
  - d. **Web Master Report** (Ernie Little).
    - i. Main and calendar pages have been refreshed.
    - ii. Potomac Flyer page completely restructured and posted. Arranged by front page thumbnails which live link to the proper edition. The actual Flyer Editions have live links within the Flyer that takes the table of contents straight to the article. Note there are 'bookmarks' that also let you jump around the Edition indices.
5. **Senior Asst. Vice Superintendent's Report (Alex Belida)**
  - a. **Flyer Editor/Publisher Report** (Alex Belida): Another 60+ page issue with info on the coming elections for Asst Super and Paymaster, a call for Abrams Award nominees, reports on our Joint Meet and Altoona...and a bunch of good features like Bob Sprague's new 3-deck layout, Ben Sullivan's layout in progress, Mat Thompson's part 2 of moving his layout, Lee Stoermer finds modeling gold in a yard clean-up, Stan Knotts is profiled and we have our 2<sup>nd</sup> Motive Power Challenge with 11 submissions. The next challenge is for train stations, freight or passenger or combo. And looking ahead to a future issue, does anyone have an objection to asking for challenge submissions of photos of real locomotives? I also have a nice Bill Day, MMR (age 92) Meet the Member profile for Feb-March.
6. **Asst. Vice Superintendent's Report (Ken Wilson)**
  - a. Layout tours status: tours are being arranged and lined up in the coming months in various areas.
7. **Paymaster's Report** (Jerry Stanley): see note from Super about NMRA and region payments that have now been made current. See report provided and to be submitted into Flyer.
8. **AP Coord.** (Martin Brechbiel): evaluation of some structures occurred at the recent meet and realized several merit awards as well. See the Flyer for details. Has posed questions to Nat'l AP and awaiting responses regarding video scoring and others.
9. **Old/Unfinished Business.** Ken is working on arranging multiple layouts in areas as noted, watch for updates and specifics.
  - a. Layouts / Open Houses (Ken Wilson)
    - i. January 15, 2024 - Maryland

ii. March 23, 2024 - Virginia

- b. Potomac/James River Joint report (Jerry Stanley): attendance: 52 donations total \$1156 to the host location. Several merit awards earned; clinics all received good feedback.

#### **10. New Business**

- a. Staffing booth Dulles. (Jerry Stanley) able to gain one table, request to schedule staffing at it.
- b. Bylaw update regarding division boundaries (Alex Belida). Alex sent out and email for a review noting one bylaw that requires updating due to changes in NMRA boundaries that have been enacted by Region. Discuss resulted in that this is a Region decision and does not require a vote and will be announced at the annual meeting.
- c. 2024 Elections (Ernie Little and Alex Belida) Committee assembled: discussions about upcoming elections being arranged.
- d. Abrams Award for 2024: notice in Flyer requesting submissions for award.
- e. MARPM/Potomac/James River/Chesapeake – Will be held at BWI in April/May 2024 and Bernie Kempinski has contacted the Potomac/James River/and Chesapeake divisions about there being an NMRA AP evaluation during the convention.
- f. Joint Potomac/Chesapeake division meet is being discussed between the two division Superintendents and possibly scheduled in April/May of 2024. (Ernie Little)
- g. December BOD meeting – virtual or live – discussion on format/location: agreed as Dec 19 730pm virtual on Zoom with a Q/A session open to members. (Ernie Little)

#### **11. Good of the Order**

- a. Concerns/Questions general discussion.
- b. Date, Time, and Place of next meeting. See above for Dec meet, and following one is 16 January 2024, 7:30 PM via Zoom.

#### **12. Adjournment at 8:45p**