



**Seacoast Division NMRA
Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes from
Thursday, April 4, 2024**

Attendance: Jim Seroskie; Tage Erickson; John McHugh; Glenn Mitchell; Jim Gore; Guy Mason; Jay Ehlen; Bruce Campbell

Tage shared that Peter McKenny and Tom Oxnard cannot be here on this stormy day.

Treasurer's Report:

Jim Seroskie shared his screen showing the financial report. He re-oriented us to the new financial format, showing the activity between Bangor Savings and the Edward Jones money market investment fund. We earned more than \$90 in dividends in the new money market fund. Our total assets total \$12,986 including the Chip Faulter Fund of \$6,584. Jim's intention is to keep the Bangor Savings account at plus/minus \$1,500, and will transfer funds from the money market account as needed. Tage brought up the IRS 990 short form—Jim reported that he has not filed it yet but will work with a friend on it soon. The due date for them is May 15 but Jim will have it done well before then. Jay moved acceptance, Jim seconded, passed unanimously.

Secretary's Report: Corrections and/or acceptance of the January 4, 2024 minutes. The minutes were accepted unanimously.

Switch Tower Report: Glenn reviewed the Switch Tower. It's a great edition, noting Tage's helix article.

Membership Report: Bruce has nothing to report.

Tage reported that our quarterly event is this weekend and then Westbrook is next week. Tage will go to the Westbrook show and pass off materials to John for the 4/27 Topsham show. Glenn will reach out to find out more about the Hooksett show on 4/21. ScaleTrains is doing a presentation at Great Falls show on 4/27.

Webmaster Report: The website is up to date as far as Glenn knows.

Chip Faulter Fund Report: No activity, nothing to report.

AP Program Report: Tom sent an email reporting that John earned a merit award on a structure.

Nomination Committee Report: No activity, nothing to report. In the summer we start asking for volunteers.

NER Board Meeting Report: A week from Sunday there will be a NER Board Meeting. Monday night the NER Convention committee is meeting Monday and passed on Tage's report. Glenn asked the committee to invite Tage, Will, and Tom to those moving forward.

Convention Committee Report: Tage reported that we picked a name for the convention and picked a logo. [See report]. We plan on working with Chris to brighten up the logo colors but other than that it is done.

New Business:

- **Join RailFun meeting in Derry, June 15?** (See email from Glenn on 3/12 and subsequent emails in response)

Bruce Robinson of the Hub Division asked us to join the RailFun event in June. Glenn shared that he is for us doing this event but not at this time. We have more than six events to organize between now and the convention and we do not add to this. Tage shared some more context for us to think about. There was a wide ranging discussion about the event. Some thought it was a one-shot deal and not a big deal while others thought we have a lot on our plate. We have an event in July. Jay made a motion that we get back to Bruce and say it was a great idea but that we postpone it until after the convention. Jim Seroskie seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Events in new places: Glenn shared that Dave Sias suggested that we do an event up his way. We did have an event there many years ago and very different people showed up. Glenn suggested our Fall 2024 event have an event in Little Harbor, New Hampshire near Lake Winnepesauki. Folks shared that it was worth looking into and worth experimenting. Glenn will work with Dave to explore the facility and see if the venue and the internet

would work. Jim and Jay expressed interest in seeing the venue, too. Glenn will coordinate a visit.

Ops Session Idea: Matt Keiser emailed Glenn that he would like to do a monthly ops session and get others to volunteer their layouts. The idea is that whoever volunteers, we could invite our membership. Jay said that this is a great idea for increasing the membership activity. Glenn wants to talk to Dave Sias and look at our convention layout list to see if we could include those (perhaps for test runs for the convention!). Tage reminded us that we used to have an Activities Coordinator who organized events like this. Glenn suggested that we move forward with Matt's idea and see who is interested. There was strong consensus for this.

ScaleTrains event: ScaleTrains is going to be at the Great Falls club and reached out to host something on Thursday, April 25 at 7 p.m., doing a pitch about the company and offering gift bags. All we need to do is find a venue. They will provide gift bags and do an hour presentation and meet and greet. Tage suggested connecting them with the Hooksett Show. Some suggested the Derry event space and invite the membership. Tage shared they do a good talk and have great inventory. There was a wide-ranging discussion on this. Glenn said he will send out an email to the membership to see who is interested and if anyone knows a venue.

- **How we deal with donated model railroad equipment and requests for help with dismantling deceased members layouts?**

Glenn stated that often friends of the deceased help do this for family. Do we want a policy about whether we do this or not? Jay reflected that this issue has come up in the past. Dismantling layouts and selling collections is a lot of work. There are companies that liquidate collections. Tage shared his experience and thought that our policy of not dealing with this is a good policy. Our division is spread out and is hard to coordinate our members to do something like this. Jay thought we already had a policy on this and suggested that he look at his notes and come back about this.

- Jim brought up the technical issue around uploading recordings of our events to YouTube. The recording of the last event was rough because everyone attending the event via zoom was on the screen, not what the camera was showing. Will look into the recording options and see if we can get a better recording. Glenn encouraged us to keep things simple.

The next Board meeting is May 16.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:42 p.m.

Faithfully submitted by Will Everitt, Secretary