

Minutes
Annual Meeting
Flagstaff Model Railroad Club
Tuesday, January 31, 2006

Board Members Present: John Lovely, Jerry Snow, Wendell Goodwin, Steve Scott, Tom Paradis, Ryan Gallagher; with other club members present.

Meeting called to order by President Lovely: 7:30PM

1. Adopt agenda

- Agenda **approved unanimously**

2. Minutes

- Minutes of November 8 board meeting **approved unanimously**

3. Treasurer's Report

- Jerry Snow provided the membership with two handouts: a) project summary and expenses, b) formal itemized budget report. Jerry summarized that the Club is currently overspending a bit on projects, but this is being made up for extra funds in the account that were not initially part of the budget. He cautioned that we need to be careful of project spending for the remainder of the year, beyond the initially approved project budget for FY06.
- Tax deductible status of the Club: President Lovely confirmed that our Club is a nonprofit, 501C7 corporation in the State of Arizona. Thus, we can donate all we wish to the Club, but donations are not tax deductible.

4. Membership Topics

- One club member had inquired previously about the possibility of being exempt from dues this year in return for his donation of a layout to raffle at Fair. Discussion ensued. Club membership felt that it would set a bad precedence, though the donation was greatly appreciated. Others have made donations in various ways and have not been exempt from dues. **Club decided on consensus against the dues exemption.**
- Applications: No new applications have been submitted. All previously probationary members were voted into the Club in November.
- Dues reminder: these members will not receive new membership cards and will not receive the new combination to the building or new name badges and pins. The current list of paid members was reviewed, and all active members have paid for FY06.
- Membership cards: Jerry Snow distributed new membership cards to those present and up to date on dues. He reminded all that the combination to the building would change tonight, but the gate combination would remain the same.

5. Consideration of By-Law changes

- *Section 3 – Officers: add Division Superintendents in place of Trainmaster:* President Lovely explained the proposed change, to add 3 new board members to hold officer positions entitled “Division Superintendent,” one each for the three current Club scales: HO, HO_n3, N. The officer position of “Trainmaster” would be replaced by the Division Superintendents. A question was raised about the possibility of adding other Division Superintendents in the future, should the Club expand to include additional scales. President replied that it would be possible, given that the Bylaws allows the Board to create new board member positions. With this change, the total number of board members would be brought to 7, four of whom would be elected at the conclusion of this meeting. A motion was made to accept the Bylaws change as proposed. Seconded. **Vote passed unanimously: 8 Yes, 0 no.**
- Section 4 – Membership application procedure. **Club voted unanimously in favor** of changing the membership application procedure so that new applicants are considered “long term guests” for up to six months before being voted in as full club members. A motion was made, seconded, to transfer power from the Club to the Board to approve

new members, so that only Board members would vote on new member applications. Discussion: pros and cons of this idea were forwarded. **Motion failed, 11 NO, 2 YES.** A motion was made, seconded, to politely remove each new applicant from the meeting in which a vote is made to accept or reject the new applicant. The entire Club retains the power to vote on the new applicant. Discussion: pros and cons of this idea were forwarded. **Motion passed unanimously, 13 YES, 0 NO.**

6. Operating Rules and Regulations.

- This is a separate document from the Bylaws that requires some updating. The Club agreed by consensus to table this revision until the next meeting when the entire revision proposal can be discussed, with comments sought from the entire membership.

7. Evaluation of Current Projects

- Signaling/Control Panel: Dave Miller explained the progress on the HO signaling project and the Power Distribution Panel. Dave showed the Club the Distribution Panel in progress and explained the electrical components. The panel will be placed under the dispatch booth when completed. John Lovely and Guy Forsythe updated the club on the plan for a new dispatch panel, and showed a draft schematic diagram of the new dispatch board. They explained that only track switch toggles would be placed on the new panel, having no need for other controls given the DCC system. The draft schematic will be updated and presented again at future club meetings.
- Baughman/Oildale/Timber Creek: John Lovely reminded these project leaders to continue working on this with the plan to complete them by Fair. Includes the Oildale sidings, townscape, transition to N-scale, N-scale trackage and wiring, and HOn3 balloon. Projects are moving along well.
- South Flag: Guy Forsythe will be prepared to begin replacing the ladder track in March, pending funding approval. John Lovely suggested that Guy take on some “apprentices” to learn how to lay and wire track, to which Guy agreed.
- East Flag: Mike Stoner explained that the trackwork is virtually complete, wiring leads are in place, still needs to be fully wired, connecting all the leads to the power supply. The buildings have been purchased and distributed to members. He believes the buildings can be complete by the work cut-off date before Fair.
- N-Scale: Art Lake explained that a couple more nights would be required to complete the trackwork and wiring.
- HOn3: Balloon loop is in place, John Lovely explained, and thanked the N-scalers for their accommodation while installing the new trackage. The N-scale project also made necessary the re-alignment of the HOn3 main line near Chaffee Canyon and the Mine, a scenery and track issue that would be discussed and approved by the forthcoming HOn3 Division members.

8. Election of Board members for 2006

- Three current board members are rotating off the Board: Ryan Gallagher, Tom Paradis, John Lovely. Four new board members will be elected, to bring the total board members to 7. Four nominees were forwarded: John Lovely, Art Lake, Jim Tuck, Mike Stoner. A motion was made to accept the four nominees as new board members by acclamation. Seconded. **Club voted unanimously to accept nominees to the Board.** The Board will appoint Officers at their next meeting. The new Board now consists of the following members:
 - Art Lake
 - Mike Stoner
 - Steve Scott
 - John Lovely
 - Wendell Goodwin
 - Jim Tuck
 - Jerry Snow

9. Final design for name badges:

- Jim Tuck described the design and status of the new club member name badges and pins. All members in good standing will receive both a name badge and a pin. The expenses for these items were slightly over what was budgeted, but the Club agreed that the cost can be made up through sales of the extra pins during the Fair or other functions.

10. New Business

- Shawn, owner/operator of Northland Hobbies, was thanked by the Club for his donation of Atlas bridge components to the Club, and for supporting the Club in various capacities.

Adjourned: 8:55PM