



Pacific Northwest Region, National Model Railroad Association



Board of Directors Meeting via Zoom

Saturday, August 12, 2023

12:00pm PDT

Present: Jeff Hermann, Richard Kurschner, Rick Martin, Brian Orysen, Rich Pitter, Kurt Laidlaw, Jeff Schultz, Dave Liesse, Larry Sebelley, Lori Sebelley, Bill Voogd, Greg Kujawa, Jack Hamilton, Bob Parrish, Bill Messecar, James Keena.

1. Opening Comments from Region President : Jeff Hermann
 - a. The new 5th division superintendent Bill Voogd introduced by the president.
2. Resignation of Education Chair accepted from Jim Rice.
ACTION ITEM: Fill vacant Education chair in next 30 to 45 days.
3. Replacement of Sterling Millar with Brian Orysen as new PNR Secretary. Brian Orysen was nominated by PNR President Jeff Herrmann to fill the PNR Secretary position that was vacated by Stirling Millar. The nomination was approved by the board.
ACTION ITEM: New replacement Secretary. Approved
4. National Convention: Bill Messecar
 - a. Bid for 2026/2027 National Convention to be held in Tacoma WA has been submitted by 4th Division.
 - b. Jeff stated NMRA President told him that no other submission to host in 2026 has been presented.
5. Secretary's Report: Brian Orysen
 - a. May 10, 2023 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes was approved with correction, Correction: Stating Mike Cummings as NMRA secretary in place of representing secretary.
ACTION ITEM: Meeting minutes with change. Approved
6. Treasurer's Report: Rick Martin
 - a. Submitting to Secretary of State annual report.
ACTION ITEM: Treasure's report. Approved
7. Update on 2023 PNR Convention (Tacoma): Kurt Laidlaw
 - a. Convention was a financial success.
 - b. Full information upon request via Dropbox, due to file size.
 - c. Convention Website will be taken offline and archived as of September 1, 2023.
8. Discussion was held on how to make the contest section of convention more robust. Railroad Prototypical Modeling (RPM) at the convention. Modelers there with model for Q & A. NMRA guidelines for contest section to be reviewed for improvements was recommended.

Discussion on membership losses. Following possible corrections mentioned.

- a. Pathfinder and mentor program for relocating members.
- b. Aging out, Relocating, and Interest changes as some reasons for losses.
- c. Retention is an issue: more members are not renewing than new members are being recruited.
- d. Look to model railroad clubs for possible NMRA members.

ACTION ITEM: Membership retention a priority.

9. Question on conflict of interest in policy manual Section I-6, Paragraph 3. Is it being followed and who is required to sign the form and where to be on file? Jeff Herrmann and Dave Liesse were assigned to follow up with National HQ.

ACTION ITEM: Follow up on Conflict of Interest form.

10. Update on 2024 PNR Convention (Surrey BC): Lori Sebelley
 - a. Invitations for website sent out.
 - b. Hotel and Reservations system available by early September.
 - c. Modeling with the Masters, decision was made to remove its expenses and income from the convention and place it on the region (PNR). Presenters expenses covered by PNR, if requested.
11. Update 2025 PNR Convention (Pasco): ***Tabled***
 - a. Due to Bill Fassett not present.
12. AP Update: Jeff Hermann
 - a. Reviewed Bill Fassett's written report and discussed AP Certificate and MMR progress and Golden Spikes.
13. Update Switchlist: Greg Kujawa
 - a. August edition published next week.
 - b. Next edition by November 15th, all submissions in by October 15th.
14. Closing Comments: Jeff Hermann
 - a. Next PNR Board meeting via Zoom November 18, 2023.

Meeting Adjourned : 1:30 PM

Summary: **ACTION ITEMS**

Fill vacant Education chair in next 30 to 45 days.

New replacement Secretary. Approved

May 10th, 2023 meeting minutes with change. Approved

Treasure's report. Approved

Membership retention a priority.

Follow up on Conflict of Interest form.

Recorded by PNR Secretary:

Brian Orysen