



Pacific Northwest Region, National Model Railroad Association



Board of Directors Meeting

August 24, 2022

MEETING HELD ELECTRONICALLY VIA ZOOM

1. Attendance:

Voting Board Members: Jeff Herrmann, Bob Parrish, Jeff Shultz, Rich Pitter, Victor Gilbert, Peter Armstrong, Russ Segner

Invited Guests: Kurt Laidlaw, Rick Astle, Shirley Sample, Bill Fassett, Ed Liesse, Dave Liesse, Jack Hamilton, Larry Sebelley, Lori Sebelley, Rick Martin

2. **Opening Comments:** The meeting was called to order by President Jeff Herrmann at 12:00 pm PDT and concluded at 1:35 pm. A Quorum was confirmed by the Office Manager. Jeff Herrmann welcomed those in attendance and thanked them for their participation. President Jeff reviewed the following with the Board:
- i. Back issues of NMRA Magazine available on NMRA website
 - ii. At-Risk Policy: The National Model Railroad Association (NMRA) has developed a policy, the NMRA At-Risk Persons Policy, regarding persons who are at-risk. At-risk persons are those under the age of majority or who have legal guardians caring for them. This Policy does not prevent persons who are at-risk from being members of the NMRA or enjoying NMRA activities when accompanied by their parents or legal guardians. The purpose of the Policy is to protect the interests of all parties who participate in model railroading activities or programs sponsored by or in conjunction with the NMRA, including its internal departments, Regions, and Divisions. This Policy does not mean that all activities involving at-risk persons need to cease, only that the proper precautions are taken to avoid unpleasant situations, which can result in lawsuits.
 - iii. June/July Membership is up
 - iv. Survey Monkey is available through National
 - v. Retention Event Grants available to Divisions: up to \$200 each year
 - vi. Division Success Kit to be launched in November:
 1. Marketing Material & Templates

2. Best Practices
3. How to run a train show
4. How to run “virtual” events
5. Useful links

vii. November launch of NMRA Social Media Platform

3. **ACTION ITEM New PNR Treasurer Appointment:** Jeff Herrmann, proposed the appointment of Rick Martin to serve as the new PNR Treasurer effective September 1, 2022. Aaron Gibbens will be ending his term as PNR Treasurer at the end of August 2022. The motion was seconded by Victor Gilbert and approved by the Board.
4. **“Whaddaya Think?”** A new board meeting segment introduced as “Whaddaya Think?” A topic would be chosen and discussed each meeting that directly addresses member participation and how to enhance the value if membership in NMRA locally. President Jeff led a discussion about how new embers can be better assimilated into full participation in NMRA and RailPass Members can be moved to full membership status. The group was generally united in the idea that new members need regular contact, invitation, and projects that they can become involved in. A draft “guide” for building an assimilation strategy would be developed by Jeff and the Education committee for review at the next meeting of the board.
5. **Nominating Committee:** Shirley Sample, Chair of the PNR Nominating Committee reported that an electronic vote was conducted during May using Election Buddy as well as by paper ballots using US and Canadian national mail systems. Jeff Herrmann was elected President and Richard Kurschner was elected Vice President. Shirley also thanked Robert Leatha, Brian Stokes, Richard Sutcliffe and Kurt Laidlaw who assisted in conducting the election.
6. **VP Report:** Bob Parrish expressed his appreciation to the board for their work during his two terms as PNR VP. He will continue his involvement in NMRA a 3rd Division AP Manager.
7. **2022 PNR Convention:** Rich Pitter, 1st Division Superintendent provided a written report to the board summarizing the results of the “Make Tracks to Eugene” convention. Highlights of his report include:
 - a. Total Attendance of 102
 - b. Total Revenue of \$16,600 with expenses of \$14,958 for a net revenue of \$1,642
8. **2023 PNR Convention:** Kurt Laidlaw, Convention Co-Chair gave a written report on progress made on the convention planning so far including registration and refund policies. The convention will be called “Prairie Line Experience” and held in Tacoma, WA May 10-14, 2023.
9. **ACTION ITEM Treasurer’s Report:** Rick Martin, Asst. Treasurer, US proposed that PNR ends its banking arrangement with Key Bank and establish a new checking and savings account with Fidelity Investments. Such account shall include new checks for use by PNR through its Treasurer as approved and warranted. Motion was made by Victor Gilbert, seconded by Bob Parrish and approved.
10. **Achievement Program:** Bill Fassett, PNR AP Manager reported on the progress of AP Certificates earned in the region over the last quarter and reminded Division Superintendents to encourage Division AP Managers to be aggressive in seeking out members who have working layouts that probably also qualify for AP Certificates. Divisions 1,2,4,6 &7 need to approve their AP Managers and forward their list to the PNR PA Manager.

11. Division Updates: The BOD agreed that Division Superintendents will provide more content on Division activities for The Switchlist starting with the next issue.

12. Next Meeting: The next meeting of the PNR BOD will be November 5, 2022 via zoom.

Respectfully Submitted,