FEATHER RIVER RAIL SOCIETY

DATE: March 2018

ITEM: Director Report

FROM: Eugene Vicknair

RAIL DONATIONS

CalTrain is still considering donation of rail to us. I have been working on ways to move the rail if it is donated. I have preliminary estimates for trucking and am working some options on gondolas.

Considering the weight and length restrictions, it would take about 10 truckloads to handle what could fit in 2 gondolas.

Also, Bart Hansen has been in contact with his friend at the Herlong Army Depot. We should have more info at the meeting.

WILLOW GLEN TRESTLE

The city of San Jose is still fighting the historic status declaration for the WP trestle near downtown. Previously, the FRRS sent a letter in support of the proposed historic status and reuse for a trail. We may want to consider sending another support letter.

"CHARLES O. SWEETWOOD"

CSRM has uncovered a large number of documents relating to the "Charles O. Sweetwood". Thanks to help from archivist Claire Phillips I was able to review most of it. Much of the documentation is internal communications of the WP and between the WP, Red Cross and other entities relating to the set-up and operation of the car in 1950-51. There are probably over 1,000 documents.

On a related note, I have begun research on the process and implications of getting some kind of historic listing for the "Sweetwood". I hope to have a full report for the Board sometime this summer.

AUDIO TOURS

We have discussed the idea for audio tours of the museum for quite a while and Gail McClure and I both investigated and came back to the board with several options in years past. Therefore I am VERY thrilled to report that Paul Finnegan has stepped forward with a great idea to implement audio tours via the website. Paul has created the basic backbone and is integrating it into our website.

I am working with Big Fish to record a series of 30-50 second audio pieces that visitors will be able to listen to via their smartphones. Once done, Paul will be posting them to the website. We are working on ways to access them, including having QR tags on the equipment info signs that visitors would scan to reach the content. Paul has more information in his report.