

Feather River Rail Society
Board of Directors Meeting – March 6, 2010 – 1:00 PM
WPRM Meeting Room – Portola, California

Attendance

Vice-President Steve Habeck called the meeting to order at 1:21 PM.

The following Directors were present

Norm Holmes	Steve Habeck	Frank Brehm (ph)
Tom Carter (ph)	Eugene Vicknair	

Staff and Visitors present:

James Mason
David Epling – Museum Manager
Vicki Epling
Larry Douglas – High Sierra Community Development Center

Correspondence

- Received several thank you postcards for things we have done for people.
- More legal documents from Stromme bequeathment.
- Email from Chris Skow, Portola RR Days train is 48% sold.

Consent Calendar

1. Minutes – Minutes of the General Meeting from February 2010.
Motion to accept consent calendar. (Vicknair / Holmes). Motion 03-10-01. Aye – 5, Nay – 0, Abstain – 0. Motion carries.

Community Discussion

Larry Douglas spoke about Portola RR Days meeting where he met Chris Skow and suggested some advertising items, including magazine press such as Christian Science Monitor. Chris said he would pay reporter's way to cover the excursion train and event. Douglas is working on creating a community development center for Portola. He offered to act as representative for FRRS on several things but we already have working representatives for those mentioned, such as Portola RR Days.

Old Business

Equipment De-Acquisition

Tabled from February. Written report provided.

James Mason spoke in favor of moving forward on focusing the collection and thinks it makes sense to move forward with this. Spoke with other directors and has offered his help with finding new homes.

Chris Allan sent a letter supporting the deacquisition plan

Tom Carter suggested Southern Pacific SD9s 4404 and 4450, Milwaukee U25B 5057, Oregon and Northwestern AS-616 4 and US Navy MRS-1 614, plus beet gon already negotiated with Santa Maria Valley Historical Society.

Final list decided for de-acquisition:

Milwaukee Road 5057 U25B
Oregon and Northwestern 4 AS-616
Southern Pacific 4404 SD-9
SP SD9 4450
Foley Brothers IR boxcab 110-1
SP Beet Gon
US Navy 614 MRS-1

Motion to accept the list and the report. Acquisition / De-Acquisition Committee is to act as search committee and are instructed to proceed as outlined in the report. (Vicknair / Carter)
Motion 03-10-02. Aye – 5, Nay – 0, Abstain – 0. Motion carries.

Fundraising Excursion Drawing

Tabled from February. Written report provided..

Plan is to sell raffle tickets for 8 couples packages on private car to Reno. Suggestion by Roger Colton to work with Sacramento AAA Baseball Team on this promotion.

James Mason suggested that we accept both proposals, but do the ballgame raffle in 2011 and start work now.

If rooms are not available for 2010 Hot August Nights, we push that back to 2011 as well.

David Epling volunteered to talk to Reno Aces, Sacramento Rivercats and Reno hotels.

Motion to accept report and James Mason recommendation to hold raffle in 2011 and attempt HAN donation trip in 2010. Eugene Vicknair to coordinate car details, David Epling to coordinate with ball teams and Reno hotels. (Vicknair / Carter)

Motion 03-10-03. Aye – 5, Nay – 0, Abstain – 0. Motion carries.

Mailing / Production Procedure

Tabled from February. Written report provided..

Discussion about using existing people and conduits to handle production and mailing.

Frank Brehm pointed out there are many issues, including paper weight. Eugene Vicknair discussed changing rules on tabbing, envelopes, etc.

Motion to accept policy and procedure as proposed. (Brehm / Carter)

Motion 03-10-04. Aye – 5, Nay – 0, Abstain – 0. Motion carries.

Advertising Opportunities

Tabled from February. Written report provided..

David Epling discussed impact of last year's billboard. We got at least a few RALs out of it, there was noticeable improvement in visitorship when billboard was up.

Concerns about putting it up too early. Feeling is June is the earliest.

Larry Douglas suggested that he can approach county about getting grant to pay for billboard.

David Epling suggested requesting \$1500 for two months for billboard.

Motion to authorize a letter to Terry Swofford requesting \$2000 grant for billboard placement and approve purchase of billboard space in June and July, if funds are provided. Steve Habeck to generate a letter requesting funds. (Vicknair / Habeck)

Motion 03-10-05. Aye – 5, Nay – 0, Abstain – 0. Motion carries.

New Business

Niles Depot Reopening

FRRS has been offered a space to participate in the reopening ceremonies for the Niles Depot in Fremont on May 1-2. We would be placed right next to Western Pacific caboose 467.

Need to find local members to handle staffing the table. If we can't find someone else, Tom Carter offered to be the fall back person.

Concensus direction to participate in Niles Depot reopening.

Ione Railfair

We have been requested to participate in the Ione Railfair in the summer and bring our Model T railcar. Habeck has concerns about Model T going, based on past issues with operating on track that was not cleared for rides. Ione group would be coordinating this with track owners.

Estimated cost to bring Model T would be \$600 to \$700. Model T is currently not running, should be fixed by May.

Eugene Vicknair and Tom Carter volunteered to oversee the museum booth and Model T at Ione.

Norm suggested fixing our own trailer.

Concensus direction to give tentative approval to participate pending further review of costs and logistics.

Good of the Order

President's Report

none

Museum Manager's Report

- Did Great Train Expo in South San Francisco / Cow Palace. Gross sales \$1525.25. Expenses \$169 hotel and \$139 for booth. David and Vicki donated rest. Sunday was dead for whole show.
- Webstore image issue has been fixed. Had 8 \$200+ book orders in the last month.
- Has found at least 1 door unlocked several times when he was come over to museum in February.
- Duane Vanderveen has been expanding wood shop and has found electrical issues that he is fixing.
- Winterail coming up, as is Convention. To save money, David and Vicki will be staying with friends.
- We are down to 750 brochures. New brochures need new membership prices.
- Got a letter from Joe Radetich. Looking for pictures of WP 165. Eugene Vicknair will take care of this.
- The cats are doing well and came through the winter fine. Overall, the museum itself came through the winter well.
- Thanks to Todd Roberts and City of Portola for helping fix the webcam after snow knocked it out of alignment.

Financial Reports

- Reports received from bookkeeper, Susan Scarlet.
- Plans are to close flatcar sale early next week, would generate \$6500.
- Order of Walther's products suddenly arrived after being backordered in June / July.

Director's Reports

- *Vicknair* – Solar City not able to help us due to Sierra Power not covering anything but very small solar installations. Solar City promised to keep looking for ways to help us. CAM convention. \$200 a plate donation dinner planned in Silver Plate for Portola Railroad Days.

Department Reports

- *Publications* – Norm provided WP Centennial article, Epling to do Santa Train article as well as others. Photos coming from Epling, Carter and Holmes.
- *Convention* – Has 9 presenters so far. Planning on track. Advertisements have gone out. Vendors are lining up with help from David Epling. Carter has been reaching out to older WP employees and looks like many will attend. Epling to contact Tommy Holt about modeling clinic. There will be WP model displays at Convention.

Committee Reports

- *Business Practices* – written report and recommendations presented concerning financial reporting.

Legal Counsel Report

none

Status of Surplus Property Report

none

Safety Report

Slippery, some snow. Norm Holmes and Ed Powell did some shoveling. Ed Powell to bring gas sniffer to check south tank for possible leak

Public Comments

- *Vicki Epling* – Pipe broke in kitchen to ice machine. Would like to replace with copper. Handicapped stall in women’s still not working.

Notices

On webstore, when you log in – put in FRRSMember for 10% discount, FRRSLife for 15% discount. Code will be verified before order processes.

Closed Session

Meeting adjourned to closed session at 3:36 PM and reconvened to open session at 4:42 PM. Director Vicknair reported the following out of closed session:

“The Board heard a report on an on-going legal issue, FRRS v. Kasten / ITAC. Concensus direction given, no action taken.

The Board heard a report on a business issue concerning possible business assistance to the Society. Concensus direction given, no action taken.

The Board heard a report on a business issue concerning financial reporting. Concensus direction given, no action taken.

The Board heard a report on an on-going legal issue, Morgan v. FRRS. Concensus direction given, no action taken.”

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at: 4:44 PM
Next meeting: Saturday, April 10, 2010 – 4:00 PM
Location: WPRM Meeting Room
Portola, California

Respectfully Submitted,

Eugene Vicknair
Secretary, FRRS