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**North Central Region , NMRA
Board of Directors Meeting**

Saturday Oct 24, 2024 10:00am

Location: ZOOM meeting

Members Present: Dave Capron , Phil Doolittle, Norm Logan, Steve Harsh, Skip Luyke, Scott Kremer, Marshall Stull, Mike Cipko, Bob Jones, Andy Keeney, Curt Danielewicz, Jonathan Pulling,

Call to order 10:01 am and introductions (Dave Capron President)

Agenda changes : None

2. Previous BOD Minutes.(Norm Logan)

Motion Harsh 2nd Pulling to accept Minutes. PASSED

3. Treasure's Report(Steve Harsh)

We have received the both expected rebates for the year from the national office.

- * HotBox adds are running above expectations
- * Other income sources should to close to budget by year end
- * The big item is the return of \$3,433 on our investment in Indy Junction 2022 beyond the return of the seed funds
- * Expenses should be close to budget by year end
- * The Indy Junction 2022 seed funds of \$3,500 have been repaid
- * We now own 6 video projectors
- * Our net worth is nearly \$21,000

Motion Jones 2nd Luke to accept Report. PASSED

DISCUSSION as to whether we have an NCR website up and running.

ANSWER by Marshall Stull: **Yes** we do – **NCRNMRA.Org**

4. Achievement Report (Skip Luyk)

We have given out 14 Certificates this year.

Don Bergman to receive MMR.

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5. HOT BOX report written (Barry Hensel)

In my opinion, the HotBox is still doing well. Issues are getting out on time, we have had a decent run of articles and reports. Comments are good and supportive. Thus, I believe no changes are needed as far as actual content, format, etc....

However, costs are always an issue. Using the latest issue, Sept 2022, the total cost to print and mail was about \$1175. Doing that 4 times a year, brings us to approx. \$4700 per year.

We have about 302 subscriptions at \$10 each which equals \$3020 income. Other income through the year is from train show ads, totaling approx. \$150; Pike ads at \$400/year (\$15/3 year contract) and hobby shop sales at approx. \$80. That totals \$3650 income/year. Thus... the HotBox for 2022 should be at a deficit of approx. **\$950**.

Here are my proposals to be voted on today.... or a vote must be taken before October 31, so that any changes that are approved can be advertised in the December issue. And lastly... these prices are negotiable! Feel free to approve as is, or other amounts, but please... keep the increases low!! All changes would take place as of January 1st, 2023 and with the March issue.

- 1) Raise copy price to \$4/issue and subscription to \$13/year (or other amounts agreed on)
- 2) Add an email direct subscription option at \$8/year (or other amount agreed on)
- 3) Reduce Hobby Shop copies from 6/store to 5/store

Motion: Pulling 2nd Jones **To raise the price of the HOTBOX to \$4/issue and subscription to \$15/year. PASSED**

DISCUSSION about the HOTBOX being put ON LINE (website) or sent email. Topic tabled until we can talk to Barry. Marshall is willing to help with online publication.

6) Tri Regional 2022 review(Scott Kremer)

Tri Regional Convention and RPM Conference May 18-22 2022

The convention was a success in size and Payback. Information that came back from the convention survey was positive. Many liked the four day format. The President of the NMRA attended the convention and liked the impact and format of the convention. Projectors that were purchased for by the Region hosts were divided (3 each) and were given back the Regions. All seed money was given back to Region hosts.

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7) **Div 9 ONE DAY EVENT**- Rich Mahaney

The NMRA NCR Division 9 is hosting a Model Railroad Convention over two days (OCT 28/29, 2022) which will include layout tours, clinics, a special dinner and hopefully some operating session, all of this is over a Friday afternoon through Saturday time frame. The location is in the Kalamazoo and Battle Creek area of Michigan. The Kalamazoo Model Railroad Club will be hosting their annual fall train show and sale on the Sunday (Oct 30) of that weekend if you would like to attend that also. A weekend of railroading activities. Hotel selection in the area is on your own. For more information or question contact Rich Mahaney at 269-214-4221 or rcmahaney@gmail.com.

DISCUSSION about the lack of PR for this event. BOD would like all Divisions to send out information to the membership about this event.

OLD BUSINESS

DISCUSSION about the status of the NCR Projectors.

One of the original projectors is missing. BOD thought that Scott Panoff may have it, but Dave Capron said he had checked and it was not at Scott's home. Dave Capron asked Phil Doolittle to put together a spread sheet to show the BOD the locations and use of the projectors to date. Our three new projectors will be put on this tracking spread sheet. We are still looking for the missing Projector. Any information please contact Dave Capron.

DISCUSSION about the status of the NCR membership recruitment.

Marshall – **Div 1** has a member who makes a personal call to all new members.

Curt – **Div 8** sends a personal greeting to all new members. We have a chairperson for this.

Bob – **Div 3** signs up new people at their convention.

Scott – We need to talk to people under 65. What does the NMRA give back to the hobby? Does everybody know of the RAIL PASS? Could the fee for NMRA be \$20 for people under 35?

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion of the rotation of Division Region Convention year dates.

These are the future rotation dates:

2024 Division 6 Northville

2025 Possible DETROIT NMRA Convention

2026 Division 4 Grand Rapids

2027 Division 5 Lansing

2028 Division 8 Troy Scott Kremer will be the Chairman for NMRA Detroit. If passed by the National, this convention will be held in Novi 2025 the 4th week in July. It will be a shorter 4day (Wed-Sat) with a Train Show at Novi Show Place.

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Information on upcoming Conventions

Division 3 – Fort Wayne Oct 19-22, 2023 - Jones

Holiday Inn will be the host site. We are working on Pro tours.

OPS and layout tours Morning / Afternoon

Clinics Afternoon / Evening

Train show and swap meet – Sat Oct 21 9-4pm

Division 6- Northville Oct 10-13, 2024 – Logan

North Central Express 24

Ward Church Northville Mich will be the host site.

Discussion of the use of NCR Convention guidelines.

Dave Capron said “that I will be nice that all conventions had signed forms for credit for AP and were given for clinicians, volunteers and layout owners.

Motion by Cipko 2nd by Kremer – To form a committee to review the guidelines as used by current Divisions for their conventions. PASSED.

If you wish to be on this committee please contact Dave Capron.

Discussion of all Divisions having the same date for elections of officers.

Norm Logan said that it would good **to have an regional month that election of officers was held.** This way, NCR could send our Regional Certification information to the National with the current officer information for insurance of Division events and conventions.

Reminder to all Divisions from Dave Capron that:

NMRA Division and Regional Certification information is Due 12/01/2022 and needs to be sent to Norm Logan Secretary. Do not send this information to NMRA National.

Election of NCR officers

The position of President, Secretary, and two Directors are up for election.

Section 3

Officers and elected Directors shall not serve in the same office for more than two consecutive terms. Each Division Superintendent may serve as a *Member of the Board* until replaced by his Division.

Dave Capron : Norm Logan will be the Chairperson for the Election Committee. Division Superintendent may pass this information on to their Division. **If a member of the NMRA wishes to be in the running for an office. They need to send their name and a short paragraph to Norm Logan .** This information will be sent to the membership before a vote.

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Next live Board Meeting will be Lansing, April 2023. Site TBA.

Motion Marshall 2nd Curt: to adjourn meeting. 12:11pm.

Respectively submitted,

Norman A. Logan

Secretary, North Central Region, NMRA

Thanks to all of the NCR Board members. It was my great honor to serve you these last four years.

Norm