

Meeting Minutes Winchester Chapter, NRHS

Meeting Date:	June 8, 2024
Meeting Location:	In the classrooms of the Calvary Covenant Brethren Church, Winchester, VA
Minutes Submitted by:	Kevin Horn, Chapter Secretary
Attendance	21 members and 3 guests

The monthly m

Meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by President Van Welton

President's Report:

Van Welton recognized visitors and new members of the Chapter.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer reported that there were no changes since his detailed report submitted April 2024. A slide showed the current bank accounts as \$6,936.24 in the checking account and two CD funds consisting of \$5,642.64 and \$6,000 prior to interest earned. A motion to accept the information as an abbreviated Treasurer's Report was made and passed with no objections.

Secretary's Report:

Kevin Horn had previously emailed on June 6 the minutes from the May 11, 2024 meeting. A motion to accept the minutes as presented that was seconded and approved.

National Representative's Report

Jim Cashell reported that the national organization will have the 2024 annual convention in Harrisburg, PA, August 26 through August 31. The deadline for hotel bookings at the convention hotel, Hilton Inn (\$134 per night plus 11% tax), is August 6.

New Business

To save time and effort, members are encouraged to present new business to the Administrative Committee (Van, Jeff, Kevin, Carl and James) for their discussion prior to regular AC Monday meetings, before each monthly Saturday chapter meeting.

Newsletter

President Van Welton reported that a regular chapter newsletter is in the formative stages of development. It is envisioned that the newsletter, "High Iron" will allow chapter communications to be condensed into one or two monthly communications to the membership instead of various e-mails, etc. The newsletter will contain links to other chapters as appropriate as well as submissions by members. Please communicate with officers Kevin Horn, Secretary, and Jeff Summerlin, Vice President.

Shenandoah Junction Railfan Day

President Van Welton briefly reported that the third annual railfan day at Shenandoah Junction is scheduled for Saturday, August 17. Carl Stephanus indicated that he will have his railroad motor car at the meeting for display.

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New Partnership

President Van Welton indicated that the Winchester and Middletown Model Railroad Association (new name for Winchester Model Railroad Club) will someday be moving into a new building in Middletown and has invited the WC to participate in decorating the building with railroad artifacts, etc.

Diesel Locomotive 820 (former EL 421)

President Van Welton reported that a representative from Precision Locomotive Leasing, Staunton, VA inspected the locomotive and reported that it appears to be in good serviceable condition (except for eventual need to replace both front wheel sets at an estimated cost of \$8,000 to \$10,000 plus labor) and is to be regarded as a workable locomotive of value. Plans are underway to move the locomotive to a location in Winchester that is accessible to the chapter.

Monthly "Railroadiana Spotlight"

There was no monthly presentation.

Meeting Adjournment, a Look Ahead to August and This Month's Program

The August program will be for the celebration of the railfan hobby with members and guests given three to five minutes to present their photos (loaded up ahead of the meeting) relevant to the hobby.

Tonight's meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM, followed by this month's program, "In the Interest of Safety" by Tracy Lamb, State Coordinator, Virginia Operation Lifesaver. Tracy Lamb is a resident of Midlothian, Virginia and is employed by the Virginia State Corporation Commission (SCC), Division of Utilities and Railroad Safety.

Tracey Lamb noted that Virginia has approximately 3,000 miles of railroad track and 4,200 railroad crossings. Nationally, she reported that there is a railroad crossing incident on the average every three hours. Every state has a federally mandated (Federal Railroad Administration) complete inventory of all railroad crossings which are individually identified with a unique location code that is attached to every crossing. For more information refer to the Operation Lifesaver web page, "oli.org".