

Meeting Minutes of the Winchester Chapter-NRHS

Meeting Date: October 12, 2024

Meeting Location: Classrooms of the Calvary Covenant Brethren Church
Winchester, VA

Minutes Written by: Carl Stephanus, Treasurer (Secretary Kevin Horn on vacation
in western USA)

Attendance: 16 members and 4 guests (including Mrs. Doug Russell)

Prior to and after the meeting, the Chapter's recently acquired Fairmont MT-19 was available on Carl Stephanus' A3 trailer in the parking lot for attendees to get a close look, with many questions answered by Alex Haines and Carl.

Also, prior to the meeting, Trent Wolfensberger exhibited his N scale trains operating on a classroom table, along with some N scale buildings.

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

Secretary's Report: Kevin Horn will email the minutes for the Sept. 14 meeting when returns from vacation at the end of Oct.

Treasurer's Report: Jeff Summerlin has obtained a 4th Walmart donation check, making his big check solicitation totals \$1,750 and \$500 from Bank of Clarke, all unrestricted. We also received a \$100 donation for caboose restoration from The Auto Care Clinic of Front Royal, VA.

(Carl sent a Financial Report updated to Oct. 14, 2024, to all members, with budget, income, and expenses numbers, and current checking account balances, which now total \$22,897.69.)

With the Lynch family (10yr.old Joseph, & his father-Greg and mother Kim, joining in Sept.), Carl reported we now have 95 members (regular, family, & honorary).

Carl reminded attendees to take or leave magazines and books set out on the table, including a new box load just brought in by a guest. If we get too many duplicates or "slow

movers”, Carl will pack up some for Chapter sale at an auction. Also, we still have many old RR postcards for sale at 25 cents each (or 5 for a \$1)

Area Railroad News: Trent and others gave brief reports of railroad news and changes in our general area.

Chapter Caboose C207: Van reported on the various efforts involved to relocate and restore our caboose. It will be moved to the city location on or about 10/26, after companies donate material and labor for the “new” 30ft track.

The contractor to replace siding etc. will work on the caboose after it is at its new location. Members and other volunteers will do the caboose painting after the siding work is done, perhaps having the first painting date in mid-November.

Van presented, discussed, and called for a vote on the following motion (which had been emailed to all members on Oct.11) and which was seconded and approved by members present:

“Caboose Repair Motion:

As the Administrative Committee, in consultation with Caboose Relocation Team, believes this contractor will strive to renovate the caboose as efficiently and economically as possible, the Administrative Committee moves the Membership to approve the following motion:

1. Enter into a contract with Shenandoah Hardwood Flooring, Randy Brackbill, owner, to replace the wood siding and do other necessary work on the Chapter's caboose, based on the following items listed below.

2. This contractor estimated his contract cost would be \$ 11,516.60, including materials and labor, and will be allocated as follows:

\$5,216.60 to replace siding on four sides with pine boards, with this work including adding vapor barriers, caulking, and prep for painting.

\$4,800.00 to repair 12 windows, including replace missing glass, replace rotten wood, and reglaze glass.

\$600.00 to repair the metal awnings over the windows., with flashing, etc. added

\$900.00 to replace the metal soffit under the roof line with wood boards.

3. After the W&W side has been completed, the Chapter will determine if it is financially feasible to immediately renovate the other side. Until we discover the condition of the framing, we do not know if the chapter will need to commit most of the contract price to the renovation of just one side or if the contract price will sufficiently cover the work for both sides. The contractor's additional contract cost to repair/replace framing remains to be negotiated.

4. The above estimate excluded painting, which will be done by Chapter members and other volunteers, and thus eliminate adding up to \$3,200 for labor to the above \$11,516.60 estimate. A material estimate of primer, paint, and brushes & rollers has not been made yet."

Our existing track in the park has two 30ft lengths of rail (allegedly rolled in England circa 1869). These track materials will be picked up by Hub Scrap Co., and held for us, while the Chapter decides to whom we might sell or donate (swap for something?) this historic material. Mason Copper believes this rail is 85 Lb./yd

weight.

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

RR Motor Car (a/k/p speeders) Swap: Carl reported on the swap of our inoperable Ma&Pa ST2-H1 for an operable MT-19 on Sept. 27, which was described in an email sent on Sept. 29 to members and others.

Monthly "Railroadiana Spotlight": Jeffrey Jordan presented a rare RR lantern made by Bradley & Hubbard Manufacturing Co. Although cheaper when first made, it did not sell well as it was inferior to the the RR lanterns made by Adlake or Dietz Co..

Meeting Adjournment and This Month's Program: The meeting adjourned around 8:10 +/-5"pm and followed until 9:10pm by a presentation of Railroad Night Photography by member Jon Wright. He described the lights, cameras, varied subjects and locations, with an emphasis of needing lots of patience in taking these photos. Many of his pictures were quite colorful, particularly when showing locomotives and/or buildings. And he ended with a recent picture of the colorful Northern Lights.