

Meeting Minutes Winchester Chapter, NRHS

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| Meeting Date: | April 13, 2024 |
| Meeting Location: | In the Fellowship Hall of the Calvary Covenant Brethren Church, Winchester, VA |
| Minutes Submitted by: | Kevin Horn, Chapter Secretary |
| Attendance | 19 members and 5 guests |

The monthly 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 and introduced the new slate of elected officers collectively identified as Administrative Committee (AC): *President* – Elton Van Welton; *Vice President* – Jeffrey Summerlin; *Secretary* – Kevin Horn; *Treasurer* – Carl Stephanus; and *National Representative* – James Cashell.

Treasurer's Report:

Carl Stephanus announced total Chapter membership is 75 (email, March 18, 2024). Carl noted that membership has increased 100% in the past two years.

Carl presented the Treasurer's Report detailing chapter finances for calendar years 2023 (budget and expenses) and 2024 (budget and expenses year to date) and annual incomes for the period 2021 through 2023 and projected for 2024, 2025 and 2026. The current bank account balances include: (1) Truist checking, \$6874.43; (2) Summit Bank, \$5,642.64 CD (4%, 08/15/24); and (3) \$6,000, Bank of Clarke CD (5.15%, 08/26/24). Total funds in the chapter accounts are \$13,517.07.

A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. The motion was declared passed due to no objections.

Secretary's Report:

Kevin Horn did not have a report on account of the absence of a meeting in March due to banquet.

Banquet Report:

Carl Stephanus gave a summary report of the annual banquet March 9, 2024. There were 68 paid attendees and two guests. An honorarium of \$1,000 was paid to the speaker for personal transportation expenses from North Carolina, \$500, and presentation, \$500.

Chapter Communications:

President Van Welton briefly discussed forthcoming changes in communications to the membership from the Administrative Committee. Among the envisioned changes are a standard uniform layout email with regular delivery bi-weekly or weekly. The communications will also include announcements of activities and local railfan fan news.

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National Representative's Report

Jim Cashell reported that the Reading & Northern will commence Iron Horse Rambles beginning May 25.

New Business

New Business from the Floor

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 at the regular AC meetings, Monday before each monthly Saturday chapter meeting.

Service Opportunities

The Junior Railroaders Club event held April 13 will be followed by an "open house" picnic at the chapter caboose, 10:00 am, Saturday, June 8. Support leaders are needed and encouraged to participate.

Website News (www.WinchesterNRHS.org)

In addition to payments for dues and banquet reservations, donations to the Chapter are now possible using PayPal, by clicking on "Donate".

Also, members and guests can click on "Shop" to access the "Railfan Supply Shop".

Monthly "Railroadiana Spotlight"

Jeff Jordan presented a large railroad track wrench and discussed the history of this large tool, weighing about 15 pounds, manufactured by Warren Tool Corporation, Warren, OH until 1984 when local operations ceased due to corporate restructuring. In 1994 the Warren Tool Corporation was sold to Wilton Corporation and continued to operate as Warren Tool Corporation until Wilton was acquired by Walter Meirer Holding Company AG in 2002.

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

Next month's Chapter meeting have a presentation by member Mason Cooper, "40 Years ago (1994) on Conrail's Winchester Secondary".

Tonight's meeting adjourned at 7:49 PM, followed by this month's program: "The Allegheny Portage Railroad" presented by chapter member Noah Collins.

Noah Collins described the historical and geographical setting for the State of Pennsylvania to pursue an east west transportation corridor between Philadelphia and Pittsburgh in competition with New York (Erie Canal) and Maryland (Chesapeake & Ohio Canal) leading to the creation of the Alleghany Portage Railroad inclined planes. The history and artifacts of the unique transport crossings of the inclined plates by canal boats are preserved in the Alleghany Portage Railroad National Historic Site, Gallitzin, PA,