

PACIFIC COAST REGION OF THE NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION
A California Nonprofit Corporation

Meeting Of The Board of Directors
Saturday, October 26, 2019 – 1:00 PM
Crowne Plaza – Concord, CA



Call To Order at 1:01 PM by President, Chris Palermo. *All officers and three of the four directors were present. Absent was Daylight Division Director, Neil Fernbaugh. Others present were Tom Crawford, Pat LaTorres, Ray deBlicek, Giuseppe Aymar, Darlene Ferguson, and Bob Ferguson*

Adoption of Agenda *Adopted as presented with a note to correct the spelling of "Meriam".*

Approval Of Minutes From Previous Board of Directors Meeting *Motion by Frank Markovich with a second from Tom Van Horn to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.*

Officers' Reports

President, Chris Palermo *Deferred to written report previously emailed to officers, directors, and department chairs. Printed copies available for others.*

Vice President, Frank Markovich *Written report previously emailed to officers, directors, and department chairs. Printed copies available for others. Reported on National Convention. Noted that PCR is one of only three regions still collecting a subscription fee. (noted by Treasurer, Bob Osborn that National may implement a \$2 "collection charge" for regional subscription fees.)*

Treasurer, Bob Osborn *Written report previously emailed to officers, directors, and department chairs. Printed copies available for others. Brief discussion of a possible \$600 surplus going forward – assuming no further collection of subscription fees. (noted by Pat LaTorres that the PCR Modesto convention final report has yet to be filed.)*

Secretary, Chip Meriam *No report.*

Directors' Reports

Daylight Division, Neil Fernbaugh *No report.*

Coast Division, Lisa Gorrell *Written report previously emailed to officers, directors, and department chairs. Printed copies available for others. Noted that the Division Superintendent resigned in September. No replacement as of yet.*

Sierra Division, Tom Van Horn *Written report previously emailed to officers, directors, and department chairs. Printed copies available for others. Noted that International Rail Fair would be held in November in Roseville for the last time. The 2020 Rail Fair will be a month earlier and will be relocated to Sacramento. Noted that his tenure as Division Director was coming to a close. (noted by Chip Meriam that there were two candidates running to succeed Tom.)*

Redwood Empire Division, Steve Skold *No report. Will be revising financial statement balance. Noted one candidate for director.*

Department Reports

Administration, Chris Palermo *No report.*

Nominations and Election, Dave Connery *No report. No activity.*

Membership, Doug Wagner *Written report previously emailed to officers, directors, and department chairs. Printed copies available for others.*

Publications, Gus Campagna *No report.*

Contest, VACANT *No report.*

Achievement Program, Jack Burgess *No report.*

Non-Rail Activities, VACANT *No report.*

Storekeeper, Ted Moes *No report. No changes.*

Conventions, Tom Crawford *2020 host will be Coast Division – more volunteers needed. 2021 host will be Daylight Division with a mini convention in Fresno – still seeking a venue. 2022 host will be Redwood Empire Division. Noted that the 2022 convention planning is on hold pending changes to the Manual Of Operations. The convention handbook is on hold for the same reason. The current registration software does not work well with on line registration. A solution is being sought.*

Old Business

Convention Manual Update, Tom Crawford. *See discussion under Conventions Report (above).*

Update – Financial Reviews of Divisions, Frank Markovich – *No update.*

Update – Web space for presentation of videos and clinics - *No update.*

Update – Changes in contests to get more member participation, Frank Markovich – *Refer to Vice President’s Report for September 2019, previously emailed to officers, directors, and department chairs. Printed copies available for others. Former Contests Manager, Giuseppe Aymar, noted that divisions need to encourage more novice entries. Prospective Contests Manager, Pat LaTorres, noted that proposed changes need to be implemented in “baby steps”, and that action on the proposed changes should be tabled for now. Ray deBlieck noted that it was important to explain to the contest entrants that the Divisional, Regional, and National contest will be judged differently. No further action was taken by The Board.*

Update – Backup positions list, Frank Markovich – *More input needed from Division Superintendents*

How to support clubs, Chris Palermo and Frank Markovich – *will prepare white paper on the benefits of obtaining 100% NMRA membership, and distribute to clubs.*

Increasing publicity, Chris Palermo and Frank Markovich. *New Chief Marketing Officer position has been filled by Pete Birdsong. General informal discussion of publicity methods used and/or being considered around the region.*

Non-Rail activities, Frank Markovich *Noted by Tom Van Horn that there should possibly be no separate fee for non-rail convention attendees.*

New Business

Discounted NMRA dues program, Chris Palermo. *Much discussion about a proposal to subsidize membership fees for younger, new NMRA members. No action taken by The Board. Chris Palermo noted that further ideas for new member recruitment are solicited from members of The Board.*

Proposed Changes to Manual Of Operations §9.1(b). *A motion by Chris Palermo with a second from Frank Markovich to adopt the proposed revision of M.O.O. §9.1(b), as revised. Motion carried.*

Update – Contest Rules, Frank Markovich *Refer to Vice President’s Report for September 2019, previously emailed to officers, directors, and department chairs. Printed copies available for others. No action by The Board.*

The Buddy System, Frank Markovich *Frank Markovich will work up guidelines and distribute to Board members for consideration.*

Date Of The Next Board Meeting

April 30, 2020, 1:00 PM
Crowne Plaza – Concord, CA

Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:51 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Charles M “Chip” Meriam, Secretary

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chip", with a stylized flourish underneath.