

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

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 30, 2020 – 1:00 PM

Virtual Meeting via ZOOM



Call To Order at 1:00 PM by President, Chris Palermo. *All officers and three directors were present. The Daylight Division Director position is currently vacant. Others present were Tom Crawford, Pat LaTorres, Ray deBlieck, Giuseppe Aymar, Bruce Morden, Dave Grenier, Earl Girbovan, Ed Merrin, Jim Collins, Gus Campagna, Dave Connery, Al Merkrebs, Bob (unknown)*

Adoption of Agenda *Adopted as presented.*

Approval Of Minutes From Previous Board of Directors Meeting *No action taken during this meeting. May be deferred to the next meeting.*

Officers' Reports

President, Chris Palermo *Deferred to written report previously emailed to officers, directors, and department chairs.*

Vice President, Frank Markovich *Written report previously emailed to officers, directors, and department chairs.*

Treasurer, Bob Osborn *Written report previously emailed to officers, directors, and department chairs.*

Secretary, Chip Meriam *No report.*

Directors' Reports

Daylight Division, Vacant *Dave Grenier, Daylight Division Member, reported there was still no Superintendent and no Director. The Daylight Division is currently running by committee. The 2021 convention is "on track".*

Coast Division, Lisa Gorrell *Written report previously emailed to officers, directors, and department chairs. Coast Division is currently searching for other venues and is considering a possible change in format.*

Sierra Division, Tom Van Horn *Written report previously emailed to officers, directors, and department chairs. Chris Palermo acknowledged Tom Van Horn's years of service as Director and thanked him for his efforts. Applause from all present.*

Redwood Empire Division, Steve Skold *Written report previously emailed to officers, directors, and department chairs. Director Skold noted that former PCR Vice President, Carol Alexander, was fighting pancreatic cancer. The RED May meet had been cancelled. Chris Palermo acknowledged Steve Skold's years of service as Director and thanked him for his efforts. Applause from all present.*

Department Reports

Conventions, Tom Crawford *2021 convention is moving along fine.*

2020 Report – Earl Girbovan Convention has been cancelled. Accounting is almost finalized. Refunds have been issued. Expecting a small profit thanks to donated fees. Chris Palermo noted that all convention volunteers will be recognized by a letter from him as PCR President.

2021 – Dave Grenier reported that Daylight is about to open the doors and that a dinner excursion is planned with the Yosemite Sugar Pine Railroad. It has been suggested, by Bill Scott, that another fine excursion might be Hillcrest.

2022 – Tom Crawford noted there might be a change in host division. The host is currently scheduled to be RED, but it may change to Coast. Earl Girbovan noted that lodging rates in the Coast Division might be prohibitive. No action taken at this time.

Administration, Chris Palermo *Written report previously emailed to officers, directors, and department chairs..*

Nominations and Election, Dave Connery *President and Vice President are coming up in January. Will need candidate statements in time for publication in the fourth quarter **Branch Line**.*

Membership, Doug Wagner *Written report previously emailed to officers, directors, and department chairs.*

Publications, Gus Campagna *No report. Dave Grenier noted the need for secure websites throughout the PCR. These are the PCR website, the four Division websites, and the Convention website. Dave will obtain cost estimates and prepare a proposal for future consideration.*

Contest, Pat LaTorres *Pat noted he will be moving out of the region in May of 2022. He suggested the need for a replacement contest chair "sooner rather than later".*

Achievement Program, Jack Burgess *No report.*

Non-Rail Activities, VACANT *No report.*

Storekeeper, Ted Moes *No report. No changes. Chris will follow up.*

Old Business

Convention Manual Update, Tom Crawford. *Eight revised drafts are complete. Tom is looking for people to review certain sections. Some sections may be labelled as “unrevised”. Obsolete sections may be placed in an appendix. Tom will provide an updated status report.*

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

Update – Backup Positions List - *No update. Topic dropped.*

Regional Encouragement for Getting New Members - *Frank Markovich noted we need something other than discounted membership fees, possibly prizes of some sort. Dave Connery suggested we might not be well served to focus too much on membership at this point. Ray deBlieck suggested that “conventional” conventions may be on the way out and that virtual conventions may be the wave of the future. Ray noted the recent success of FaceBook Live. Ray also noted that costs for conventions are getting too high and that travel is getting more difficult. Tom Van Horn noted that NMRA offers many other benefits – not just conventions.*

Cost Control – Frank Markovich – *Situation has been resolved.*

The Buddy System, Frank Markovich - *On Hold for now..*

New Business

Membership Numbers - Chris Palermo. *Topic addressed in the President’s report.*

Member services on remote-virtual basis. – Chris Palermo. *FaceBook Live is looking for clinicians from CPR.*

Education Committee Chair *National will be expecting an education committee (and chair) by 2025.*

National Policy on at-risk persons *Written report previously emailed to officers, directors, department chairs, and general membership. Essentially, any person under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian. This affects the Boy Scouts programs and Student Members.*

Date Of The Next Board Meeting

November 7, 2020, 1:00 PM

Windham Garden Fresno Yosemite Airport – Fresno, CA Room TBD

Adjournment

With no further business, by motion with a second and carried by vote, the meeting was adjourned at 2:08 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Charles M “Chip” Meriam, Secretary

