

Division 4, MCR, NMRA, Board of Directors Meeting- August 26, 2023

Superintendent Ron Morgan opened the meeting at 9:43 am, with 20 members present.

Items for Discussion –

Potential Change to Division 4 By Laws – Ron Morgan – Would like to change Article III, Number 3 to add new words to include the position of Secretary to be added to the list of those NOT limited to two terms. Gary Schaefer made a motion to accept the change and Brian Haas seconded. Motion was unanimously carried by the Board, for the changes to be made.

A thought to be revisited at a later time is to add the Webmaster and Flat Wheel Editor to have voting rights on Board issues.

Contract with Westlake Rec Center – Joe Filipiak – Our current contract is up at the end of December 2023. Starting in January 2024 there will be a \$10.00 an hour increase in our price. This will cost us \$180.00 more just from January to June in 2024. We can only have the room from 5:30 to 8:30 pm. Our October 2023 meeting will be held on the third Friday of the month because the Rec center has the whole building rented out on our usual meeting night. Joe is going to look at them possibly giving us a discount for us to set up our modules and run them a day for promotional purposes. They need to honor our contract and not start their summer hours until after our June meeting.

Donations – Ron Morgan – We have had request from Joe Filipiak for \$500.00 to be donated to Grafton Caboose. Another request for a donation to Vermillion

Nickel Plate Caboose Project, and from NEOLS for Tower Repair \$150.00. All to be talked about at the Budget Meeting.

Committee Reports:

Clinics – Jerry Kruger – September and October are set, looking for November and after the first of the year. Equipment is working fine. Asked for the possibility of purchasing another remote control to use at the Rec Center. Contests – Joe Filipiak – by passing out ballots during meeting, voting has increased. Please keep giving suggestions for new ideas for contests.

Raffles - Adam Woodie – Raffle supports itself – there is a boat load of inventory.

Modules – Adam Woodie – Cuyahoga County Fair went well and check has been deposited in the Division's account. Oktoberfest is coming up, followed up closely by The Great Berea Train Show.

Membership – Bill Dluback – getting brochures together for The Great Berea Train Show. Sending out notices to members whose membership will be expiring 2 months before hand.

Achievement – John Hemsath, MMR – has two more certificates to present. The person will be bringing in his building to be judged at next meeting.

Layouts – John Witt, MMR – October 28th from noon to 4:00 pm. 4 Layouts will be open. John asked if the Grafton Tower could be opened for tours also.

Webmaster – Ben Lanza/Chuck Shick – If an email is sent out asking for information, please respond so they can see if things are getting out. Turn over is going well.

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Division 4 Picnic / 4H Medina – Larry Kuczynski – will try to set up picnic for next June. Larry asked if Division 4 would purchase a plaque to be presented to the 4H Medina module winner. After much discussion it was decided we would purchase the plaque.

Store – Ron Morgan – doing okay

The Great Berea Train Show – Lee Sheffield – 90% of the tables are sold as of now. Well past where we were last year.

Additional – Annual Awards Banquet will be at Parkers on the first Friday in December THE FLATWHEEL Volume 58 Number 8 PAGE 12.

Trailer – Adam Woodie – David James is looking at many different trailers that have the same specs as the current one. Brand new they are running around \$10,000.00 to \$12,000.00. Currently the modules that are usually stored in the trailer are sitting at the Fair Grounds in a back room because the old one is no longer useable.

Treasurers Report – Greg Noeth – gave us the current balances of all accounts. He let us know what is still owed for the 2024 Convention and The Great Berea Train Show.

Ron Morgan made a motion to purchase a new trailer for the Module Group. The amount is not to exceed \$12,000.00. The Module Groups future income will repay the Division, to cover the cost of the trailer over the period of years. Fred Wagner seconded the motion. Ron asked each eligible board member individually for their vote. 100% voted to purchase the trailer.

Training Day – Gary Schaefer – it was brought up to have Training Day at The Great Berea Train Show. Adam Woodie suggested that the Avon Lake Library when the Module Group is doing a display out there. We won't need to advertise, no rental fee, and will be in February or March when things are slower. This means there will only be Clinics at The Great Berea Train Show.

2024 Regional Convention Status and Update – Jerry Kruger – our contact at the hotel no longer works for the hotel. He will let us know more of what's going on at the Meeting. If any Division 4 member wants shirts early, Jerry will be taking orders until September 24th. All styles are available. Having other Divisions add convention to their newsletters for more advertisement.

Yard Sale – Ron Morgan – sent all information together for Jerry's approval. Others are asking for a Framework of the Convention times. Jerry said it's just a general time of 8:00 am to 9:00 pm. Layouts and Operations would like set times. Currently we have: 6 committed layouts, 3 possible, and a few from other Divisions are interested in doing layout tours.

Gary Schaefer made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Brian Haas seconded the motion. Board carried the motion, meeting adjourned at 11:27 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chris Shick, Secretary, Division 4, MCR, NMRA