



GATSME Model Railroad Club Minutes of the General Business Meeting Held August 2, 2007

This meeting was held in the club's meeting room, with 15 in attendance. 3 more arrived during the meeting. The meeting was called to order at 7:40 PM by Jerry Anderson, President.

REPORTS

The minutes of the previous meeting were not available to be read, but were approved on a motion made by Ed Wilson, seconded by Val Pistilli.

Treasurer's Report – Rich Barlow reported that we had \$477.28 in the checking account, \$6101.14 in the savings account, and \$16.13 in petty cash. He also said we had had no car sales in July, and that one CD had been redeemed and another renewed.

Vice President's Report – Tim Wells reported that the GATSME Dinner would be at Rod O'Mara's home on September 29, and that a sign-up sheet would be available after the meeting. Rod suggested that holding this event from 2 PM to 8 PM would give more people a chance to attend, since some people may have plans that require them to arrive late or leave early. There was no publicity report, but Ed Wilson mentioned the annual "Green Sheet" multi-club flyer, and said that we should get our information to Stan Houpt as soon as possible.

General Superintendent – Doug Baer said that people were working on projects, and all appeared to be making progress. Major active projects were: completion of wiring in the staging loops, rewiring in the Cedar Haven area, planting of trees along leg 4, track preparation in the Greenville and Shenango area, rewiring of the Narrow Gauge line, and the addition (or restoration) of lighting to a number of structures on the layout. There are also a number of smaller projects in progress; if anyone is looking for something to do, or would like to do something and does not know how, just ask.

Operations – Chris O'Brien had not yet arrived, but Jerry said that the written comments are appreciated and are helping us make the operating sessions more enjoyable. He also mentioned that we only have four more Thursday operating sessions before it is "showtime."

Electrical – Jerry said that there had been no decision yet on an electrical chairman.

Narrow Gauge – Bob Rule said that the club would also need to find a new chairman for the Narrow Gauge committee, since his job was being changed to second shift, which will make it nearly impossible for him to attend meetings for the foreseeable future.

OLD BUSINESS

George's Family – Jerry said that no specific arrangements had yet been made to visit the Weissgerbers. We will visit at some point, to return any of his personal items that were left at the club or with other club members, to retrieve any club materials that he may have been working on, and to offer assistance to the family with the disposition of any model railroad items they may not want to keep. We probably are better-equipped to identify what they have and what it is worth. Ed Wilson offered to help with auctioning off items on ebay.

Operation Iron Horse – The first shipment had gone out to the serviceman we had been corresponding with, and a second shipment was being accumulated on the table in the club room. We had an email of thanks from Ken Alt, which was posted on the bulletin board for everyone to see. There was also an article in the local paper about this, and Chris O'Brien arrived just in time to remind us that this is an ongoing project. We don't necessarily stop after the second shipment goes out.

NEW BUSINESS

Building Use – Jerry said that the township has been using the upstairs portion of this building for a variety of community events, including concerts and performances. He asked that if we are here at the same time as an event, that we make sure we park without blocking anyone’s driveways or interfering with anyone’s access. He had talked to someone from the Upper Dublin Township Parks & Recreation Department, and had exchanged information about some of the upcoming events upstairs and about our shows.

Operations Update – Chris O’Brien said that operations had been going generally well, but that the position of “crew caller” would be reinstated, to make sure that the trains go out in order, and don’t get all bunched up. Suggestions for improvements are welcome, and putting them in writing will help prevent them from being forgotten. Questions are also welcome; if you don’t know something, and would like to, please ask. Before making any major changes to the schedule, Chris would like to make sure that everyone learns it as it is, and he said that he would be running a training session after the meeting.

Planning Committee Meeting – Jerry asked the members of the Planning Committee about their availability for a meeting, and the date was set for Tuesday August 28, at 8 PM. Club members who are not on the Planning Committee *are* permitted to attend and observe the meeting if they wish.

Show Dates – There was a question about our show dates. These had already been set, as follows:

December 8-9

January 5-6

January 19-20

March 8-9

Fred volunteered to design and produce the brochure again.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Jay Pastelak, seconded by Val Pistilli, the meeting was adjourned at 8:14 PM, a duration of 34 minutes.

Respectfully Submitted,

Frederick Monsimer,
Club Secretary