

FEATHER RIVER RAIL SOCIETY AGENDA REPORT

DATE: January 26, 2003
TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Director Vicknair
MEETING: February 1, 2003
ITEM: New Business 2
SUBJECT: Visitor and Volunteer Lounges

With the vacancy of the Silver Debris outfit car, some members have suggested that it could be refitted as a volunteer lounge area, consolidating our volunteer support facilities in one location and providing a much more flexible space than that planned for the lounge car. Director Breitwieser most recently brought this idea up in an e-mail to me and further suggested that the old Gift Shop space could be reconfigured to serve as a visitor lounge area.

As Facility Manager, I feel there is merit in both of these ideas. Turning the Silver Debris into a volunteer lounge area would not trigger the code compliance issues of a residence and would not require nearly the costs, although there is major rot in the floor at the west end that would require attention. This car would only require repairs to the electrical system and the closing of a gas leak that is present. The microwave and some of the cabinets currently in the Shower Car could be easily moved to the Debris and the deck extended as part of the improvement and code correction work scheduled to be done in the coming months. Adding couches and chairs and replacing the windows with double pane windows (as planned for the Shower car) would provide a very comfortable and informal area for volunteers to relax and socialize.

With the addition of some benches and chairs, the old Gift Shop could function as a visitor lounge space as well as a meeting room for the members. The wall between the hallway and the room is of wood frame construction and could be easily removed to provide more space (scheduled to occur in the future as part of the previously approved restroom upgrades for the diesel shop). This would provide another amenity for our guests and improve the facility for the members. Lighting improvements would be required and the ceiling could be dropped in the future (also scheduled as part of the future restroom work) to make the area easier to heat.

Costs are not known currently, but are estimated at less than \$1000 for basic work (not including items such as the deck extension and drop ceiling).

ACTION: Discussion. Possible Action.