

Feather River Rail Society
Board of Directors Meeting – July 10, 2010 – 4:00 PM
WPRM Meeting Room – Portola, California

Attendance

President Rod McClure called the meeting to order at 4:10 PM.

The following Directors were present

Norm Holmes	Steve Habeck	Frank Brehm (ph)	Wayne Monger
Tom Carter	Eugene Vicknair	Rod McClure	Charlie Spikes

The new Board was seated with all incumbants retaining their seats.

Correspondence

none

Consent Calendar

1. Minutes – Minutes of the General Meeting from June 2010.

Motion to accept consent calendar with amendment listing arrival times. (Vicknair / Habeck).

Motion 07-10-01. Aye – 7, Nay – 0, Abstain – 0. Motion carries.

Old Business

Financial Report

Written report submitted.

Latest version of budget vs. actual handed out.

Need to make mid year budget correction. Amended budget presented.

Reviewed specific items in budget.

Motion to approve amended budget as presented (Spikes / Monger)

Motion 07-10-02. Aye – 8, nay – 0, abstain – 0. Motion carries.

Feather River Express update

Train is 99% full. 450 passengers. 15 cars.

Still have Henry Luna and PLA filling Silver Splendor. About 2/3 full.

Revenue to FRRS estimated at about \$10,000.

Have 15 premium spaces left on train. Combo of Pullman spaces and other premium.

If train sells out, it brings FRRS revenue up another estimated \$10,000. Depends on final form of Amtrak contract.

Still don't have Amtrak contract. Figure \$200,000 to \$220,000 costs.

Portola RR Days committee is hurting financially. Need to raise another \$12,000 or so.

Chris Skow made challenge to RR Days committee that if FRRS would donate to RR Days, he would match dollar for dollar. Suggestion of \$1000 from Society and \$1000 from Trains and Travel, to come out of profits.

Local one-way train run with bus has been big success. Tioga Pass is available for this option.

Dunsmuir Railroad Days 2010 Report

Written report submitted.

Suggestions for next year include better signage to speeder rides, WPRM gift shop and turntable. Other suggestions in report.

UP MTO was very happy with how things went. No incidents, everything went well.

Matt Shuman has not heard one bad thing about the event. Everyone happy, including merchants.

David Epling heard complaints about no food vendors on Sunday.

Thanks to Bart Hansen for taking on turntable management and doing a good job.

New Business

WPRM Admission Charge

Written report submitted.

Proposal to examine charging admission starting in 2011.

Suggestions to increase revenue from existing system: more visible donation boxes, make them more prevalent and place them at choke points. Post donation box right at walkgate.

Some expressed opposition on charging admission due to economic times.

It appears that maybe 20% of visitors are donating.

Points made that each visitor costs us money to serve and members are now covering much of those costs.

No medium or large size railroad museums have been found on west coast that are not charging admission.

Motion to approve report (Vicknair / Carter)

Motion 07-10-03. Aye – 8, Nay – 0, Abstain – 0. Motion carries.

Baggage Car Use

Removed and tabled to next meeting.

Motion to table (Vicknair / Habeck)

Motion 07-10-04. Aye – 8, Nay – 0, Abstain – 0. Motion carries.

Funding Department

Written report submitted.

Proposal to elevate fundraising to a full department.

Motion to accept report and create department. (Carter / Vicknair)

Motion 07-10-05. Aye – 8, Nay – 0, Abstain – 0. Motion carries.

Fall Shows

Written report submitted.

Railroad shows coming up in Sacramento, Folsom and Sonoma.

Two dates conflict. Suggestion to skip Sonoma show and do Folsom show only.

Recommendation to go to Folsom show, postpone decision on others.

Suggestion for David Epling to put together a business plan on shows and present to McClure instead of bringing to Board.

Good of the Order

President's Report

- Dunsmuir train went well, no equipment failures.

Museum Manager's Report

- Written report submitted for May and June.
- Made note that we are 5 weeks away from having to be ready for RR Days and PBS film crew. We have projects that must be done. We also need to borrow some tools like mowers, etc. to clean weeds. Woods Fire might come out, but is busy.
- Shower car for public restrooms off work list, will get portapotties.

Financial Reports

- Moved to Old Business Item 1

Director's Reports

Vicknair – TE Grant Status, meeting held with City Committee and work is progressing. Harvard Partners team members visited the museum and provided some preliminary recommendations, final report coming in September.

Holmes – Had request from Slim Leiby to do tickets for speeder car rides instead of donation basis for RR Days. Speeder operators and David Epling will work out procedure.

Department Reports

Advertising – We have received the money for the billboard on Highway 395 and are in contact with advertising companies

Membership – ½ price in August and September for all non-Life new memberships.

Web – Tom Carter has been working with Harvard group on changes and improvements to the website. Also addressed questions about replacement of webcam. UP is helping us with replacement. We need donations for the webcam.

Committee Reports

Business Practices – Written report submitted.

Acquisition / DeAcquisition – Some interest but no firm offers or open negotiations

Legal Counsel Report

none

Status of Surplus Property Report

none

Safety Report

none

Public Comments

- Matt Shuman had photos of streetlight signs from Galesburg, IL and suggested that we show these to the city.
- Ed Wagner made donation of \$100 to purchase iVolunteer software. Software is purchased and being set-up. If people like it, Ed will pay the renewal each year as a donation.

Notices

- iVolunteer software is on-line and being tested. Looks like it will work very well. Will track hours and show open needs for volunteer positions.
- Ed Wagner also donated \$50 to webcam fund.

Closed Session

Meeting adjourned to closed session at 6:06 PM and reconvened to open session at 7:22 PM. Director Vicknair reported the following out of both closed sessions:

“The Board heard a report on an on-going legal issue, FRRS v. Kasten / ITAC. Consensus direction given, no action taken.

The Board heard a report on an on-going legal issue, Morgan v. FRRS. Consensus direction given, no action taken.

The Board heard a report on a business issue – Budget and Finance. Consensus direction given, no action taken.

The Board heard a report on a business issue – Equipment Donation. Consensus direction given, no action taken.

The Board heard a report on a business issue – WPRRHS Archives Donation. No action taken.

The Board heard a report on a business issue – Excursion Equipment. No action taken.”

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at: 7:23 PM
Next meeting: Saturday, August 7, 2010 – 4:00 PM
Location: WPRM Meeting Room
Portola, California

Respectfully Submitted,
Eugene Vicknair
Secretary, FRRS