

**Wisconsin Southeastern Division (WISE) of the NMRA
Board of Directors Meeting**

Wednesday October 14, 2020

Location: Virtual (via Zoom)

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM by Superintendent Slater

BOD Present - Andy Breaker (Asst. Super) (Joined at 7:10 pm), Burnell Breaker (Library), Harry Grieshaber, Dennis Janssen (Treasurer, Paymaster), Steve Miazga (Owl Car), David Rohr (Secretary, Chief Clerk), Mike Slater (Superintendent)

Chairs Present - Jim Hebner (Chair - Website)

Absent - Gary Children (Achievement AP), Andy Greco (WISE Ops), John Hagen (Layouts), Mark Hintz (ex-Youth), Art Oseland (Bus Trip). Ted Zieger (Contest).

Guests - None

Minutes - September 9 minutes: Corrections submitted by Janssen and Miazga. Miazga motioned to approve as corrected, 2nd by Grieshaber. The motion carried unanimously.

Paymaster - Reports were submitted by Janssen to the BOD via email. Insurance expense includes Officer & Director coverage. \$900 / yr. Miazga made a motion to accept the Treasurers Report, seconded by B. Breaker. The motion carried unanimously.

The Grant request (to Fed. Gov. for 501c3 groups) was filed, but won't know the decision until Feb 2021.

Committee Reports:

Membership: No changes this month.

Meets: (& Clinics).

- Slater stated the annual meeting is this Sunday Oct 18.
- After the annual meet, Slater will stream the Multi Divisional meet from Sept.
- Fox Valley Div. has added a specific contest category to their virtual meet.
- Madison meet had a layout tour slide show and Q&A.
- WISE Division chat will be on Friday Oct 23.
- Non-Divisional members are trying to submit articles to the Owl Car, but this is not preferred/allowed, (for NMRA members only). Slater to discuss in person with those involved.

Layouts: Hagen not present, no report.

Contests: Zieger not present – His submitted report stated no report – Slater stated we should look to see what other divisions are doing.

Video Library: B. Breaker stated nothing new.

Owl Car: Miazga stated the deadline for November Owl Car is October 23. Have a limited amount of material this month. Hopefully will have more details on Trainfest X, NMRA-X. Starting to get more response on manufacture announcements.

Facebook: We will broadcast the multi-divisional meet on Saturday Oct 17, and on the newly created WISE Div. YouTube account. "Trainfest-WISEdiv".

Website: Posted "Annual meeting" and link will be emailed to members. No other updates.

Bus Trips: No report, Oseland not present. The Madison has been canceled for Feb 2021, so no bus is needed for this.

Achievement: No report from Children, as he was not present. Miazga stated that Dave Poquette had a model judged by LaRoye Chisley, Miazga & Joe Russ. They did it in the garage. Zieger received his Golden Spike award for his layout. Future judging will be outdoors, or winter judging will be done in a garage.

WISE Ops: No report

Trainfest: (Slater/Janssen) – Trainfest X – We have a few more clinics, and replied back to Walthers, Atlas and SoundTraxx (they have said they will do a new product announcement, DCC install clinic and a home layout tour). NMRA-X will schedule each segment between manufactures, clinics, layouts. Will be at least Saturday, maybe part on Sunday. Manufacture's will probably be 10 min > 15 min each. Starting may be 10 am on each day. Some presentations on other virtual sessions have been up to 45 min per manufacture, which makes the entire session many hours in length. Slater to also post on YouTube, for later viewing.

Do we need legal to check?? We would need to get Presenter & Audience Permission, but we need to have a sign for live recording. Slater to review each submission for appropriate content.

Old Business:

- WISE Div. purchased a Zoom annual account. We used it for Friday Oct 9 divisional chat. (and for the last few BOD meetings)
- Multi-divisional zoom calls from around the USA. There was one on Sept 19 at noon. These will be on the 3rd Saturday of each month typically at 2 pm. Need to add these event advertisings in the Owl Car.
- The WISE Div. chat will be the 2nd Fridays of the month.
- 3rd Sundays will be the WISE Div. clinics from 1 > 3 pm.
- Maybe we need to narrow this down to 2 events a month or so. We may want to ask at the annual meeting, or put in the Owl Car to ask for guidance. Grieshaber motioned to hold to the 3rd Sunday from 1 > 3 pm. Nov event would be the Trainfest-X, December 20 can be a general call, virtual chat, social gathering. 2nd by Miazga, all approved.

- Slater asked everyone to investigate any alternate locations for 2021 Trainfest, in case State Fair Park is still not available for Nov 2021. Bring your ideas to Slater, or bring up at next BOD mtg.
- No update - Picture issue still on hold due to Covid-19, but Walthers is starting to open up in some fashion. Employees are starting to work two days a week.

New Business:

- Janssen received a request from the Four Point Sheraton to commit to the Jan & April 2021 meetings at the hotel. They will forgive the past event past dues bills of \$500 per event with \$150 deposit, but they need to know if we are going to hold these. We do not have a deposit with them at the moment, we pay as we go. Janssen motioned to not hold these in-person events, 2nd by Miazga, all approved.
- Miazga will post in the Owl Car the coming events / virtual sessions: Dec 20, Jan 17, Feb 21, Mar 21, Apr 18 Annual meeting, May 2– possible DuPage Show.
- B. Breaker will create a flyer for the local hobby shops promoting the virtual meetings and benefits of membership. But we don't want Zoom meeting details getting to the public, for fear of getting hacked.
- The layout in storage has not gotten any takers, so far. (Deadline is Oct 31) Suggested to send the info to MWR, or other clubs. Need to buy entire package. May have to sell the buildings and scrap it out.
- Google email was sent by B. Breaker to the BOD members. Hopefully most everyone received the ***@trainfest.com email addresses.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned 8:11 pm. Motioned by Janssen, 2nd by B. Breaker, all were in favor.

The next meeting is Wednesday, November 11 at 7:00 PM, via Virtual "Zoom".

The next BOD meetings. If needed is December 9. (may take a break) (2nd Wednesday).

Respectfully submitted by David Rohr, Chief Clerk