

**Annual Membership Meeting Minutes of the
SP&S Railway Historical Society
August 21, 2014
Held at the Red Lion Inn at the Quay,
Vancouver WA as a part of the 2015 annual
convention**

PRESENT: Jerry Hildenbrand, President; Doug Auburg, Secretary; Duane Cramer, Treasurer; Jim Whaley, Conventions Chair; and Jerry Pickell, Swap Meet Chair; Harold Gjerman, TNOR Mailing Chair. Plus members of the Society.

PRESENT VIA CONFERENCE CALL: Paul Hobbs, VP (Technical Services)

CTO at 11:04am by President Hildenbrand

MINUTES: of the May 22, 2014 was read to those present. Duane Cramer moved, Richard Williams 2nd to approve the minutes as read. Passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Details of the Treasurer's report are available to members via SSAE.

Doug Auburg moved, Jerry Hildenbrand 2nd to accept the Treasurer's report. Passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN REPORT: Bob Atkins reported that we have 204 members as of today.

ELECTIONS CHAIRMAN REPORT: Bob Willer reported that incumbents for most offices have agreed to run again. However, President Jerry Hildenbrand and Treasurer Duane Cramer wish to step down. Bob has been actively seeking candidates for those two offices but so far has not gotten any. There was a discussion of the responsibilities involved with these two offices and the fact that we have delegated many of the duties that used to be the responsibility of the president when Bruce Barney held the office.

CONVENTION CHAIRMAN REPORT: Jim Whaley reported that he and Duane have arranged an interesting meet for all attendees this week. No city has been set for next year. He needs suggestions and a local volunteer to help with “on the ground” in that city. There was discussion of seeking a joint convention with the GN Society in Spokane in 2016.

GRANT APPLICATIONS: David Turner reported that three criteria are needed for us to successfully seek grant funding:

1. Must have IRS 501(c)3 tax exempt status
2. Must have three years of financial reports
3. Must have a process for generating matching funds.

Discussion followed. It was noted that the IRS 501(c)3 application process is complex and professional (lawyer or CPA) help is almost mandatory to get through this process successfully. Martin Hansen’s name was suggested as someone who might agree to help us.

TNOR STATUS: Volume 3 (Summer 2014) is out and in members’ hands. Harold Gjerson reported that 217 were mailed at an average cost of \$1.02 per issue. Editor Richard Wilkins reported that the PNRA is a tremendous resource to him and other authors. He encourages members to contribute articles. He is planning a

story on the history of Wishram in the 4Q issue. Future issues will have stories on the Klickitat branch.

SWAPMEET REPORT: Jerry Pickell reported that the 2015 swapmeet is set for Saturday, February 14th. He was given a choice of the second Saturday in January or the February date and decided the January date was too close to the holidays. No conflict with the Monroe swapmeet. 32 tables have already been sold six months ahead of the event. Table rent increased \$2 to \$25 to cover increased room rent charged by the hotel.

COMPANY STORE: Duane reported that there was \$647 in sales since the last report. Website store status? There are a few baywindow kits left.

PNRA REPORT: Larry reported that their website has a prototype page up that allows access to the SP&S collection as a demonstration for the first time. This shows great promise for remote access when fully implemented. They also suggest considering the PNRA as an advertising partner.

NMRA NATIONAL CONVENTION TRAIN SHOW: The NMRA will be holding their National convention in Portland next August and will be holding a public show in connection with it at the Expo Center. The Society might consider getting a booth for this event as advertising (perhaps in cooperation with the NPRHA or GNRHS?).

NEW BUSINESS:

Next Board Meeting: Thursday, November 6, 11:00am at the Columbia Gorge Clubhouse in Portland.

ADJOURNED: 2:45pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Doug Auburg

SP&SRHS Secretary