

Meeting started by Hank Kraichely at 9:20 am

Introduction of attendees

Presentation of proxies

Fallen Flags

Platte Valley

Indian Nations

Quorum by region counsel

Last train ride

Bob Bayley Turkey Creek

Bob Shram Western Heritage

John Griffin Western Heritage

Gail Gish Turkey Creek

Others (Whit Johnson)

Hank dispense with the minutes from last meeting 1<sup>st</sup> Curt 2<sup>nd</sup> Joe Braddock

Ray Brady, Asked about the honoring of past members, he was answered with the decision from last meeting was to leave it up to individual division.

Directors Needed;

Maple Leaf, NW Ark

Ozark Mountain, SW MO

Northern, Ark

Northern, OKL

Southern, Ark

Presentations of directors reports;

Convention Dept, Whit Johnson , next convention in Wichita, Whit Johnson passed on to Rob Neises to discuss convention issues, passed out registration forms as well as hotel forms and itinerary for the convention. 120 room night requirements for the hotel, continental breakfast included. Asked that each BOD member spread the word amongst their home divisions/areas. Activities planned, flow the AVI trails tour, rail fanning guided tours. Working to find a keynote

speaker, Thursday/Friday slide or movie presentation, also partnering with the local railroad museum, possibly a UP heritage unit onsite. Questions regarding the timing of setup for layouts vendors Friday with the show Friday afternoon and Saturday. Joe Braddock asked what the merchandise entailed and Rob Neises explained what the items are to be. Phil Aylward mentioned that there would be the potential for operating sessions on a limited basis.

Hank Kraichely touched that 2020 was national in St Louis, Dave Lowell discussed the progress on the upcoming National there. He stated the website is up, information is limited at this point. Touched on a different note as well that St Louis Arch rail will be hosting an operating weekend. Whit Johnson then spoke that there is interest in Tulsa for 2021, there is a committee assembled that Whit Johnson will be in discussions with.

Hank Kraichely, 15 minute break (since coffee was ready 9:50am)

Hank Kraichely reconvened at 10:10 am

Publication Department Report, Alan Aggard not in attendance. Hank Kraichely noted that we are over a year behind in issues, also mention there is always a need for articles. Whit Johnson noted 1393 subscribers is the total the last issue went out to 52.1% opened it. Roberts Simmons also commented that MCOR does have a presence on facebook.

Advertisement Department for the Caboose Kibitzer, vacant.

Achievement Program Report, Brad Morneau MMR, not in attendance, no report submitted.

Membership Department Report Whit Johnson, report was late in submission, however it will be posted on dropbox for everyone's viewing. There were 974 members listed at latest report from national, this would be partly due to the Kansas City national, unfortunately there is a drop expected as the six month railpass duration expires. Louis Seibel touched on the spike that Turkey Creek experienced during the national convection and what can be done to try and retain members.

Robert Simmons also wanted to note the region certifications were sent out and that they need to be collected. Great MidWestern, Cowboy Line and Turkey Creek made mention that they did not receive there's. Hank Kraichely commented that we needed to get those forms turned it to retain insurance coverage.

Webmaster report Ryan Moats MMR, commented on a fair amount of changes, noted that we had to change web hosts due to the previous provider going out of business. Commented that the list of Kibitzers shown is up to date.

Discussed the issues brought up to national regarding the region website being outdated. In response to this discussions and concerns floating around a conversation was had with the national president and that we could not publish material we do not have. Ray Brady floated the idea of combing the Kibitzer and website into one as a possible solution. Whit Johnson replied that Ryan Moats has enough on his plate dealing with the website as opposed to him be

responsible for the editorship of the Kibitzer as well. Ryan Moats also noted that contact information for region officers is posted, but that we might need to consider including contact information for division officers as well. Joe Braddock noted that we might need to skip over the past issues and just catch up. Hank Kraichely responded that he has had discussion with Alan Aggard and that he desired to catch up. It was commented by Rob Neises that Alan Aylward was taking on an assistant to help bring the Kibitzer up to date.

Heart of American report, presented by Robert Folkmann Hank Kraichely touched on the purpose of the Heart of America fund and how it is used.

Treasures Report, presented by Robert Folkmann, went on to state that he had turned in paperwork for the 501c tax form as well as the 991 form. Touched on the activities funds and where they stand. Phil Alyward asked if the division needed to turn in a 501c3, John Garavaglia stated there was no advantage to them having a 501c3. Larry Deihl did comment that Turkey Creek did have an advantage for the division in terms of pricing of event venues.

Region Car Report, Whit Johnson a few cars are still available, but not many.

OLD Business,

Robert Folkmann discussed the current ordering of region shirts and that most of them had been distributed.

Joe Braddock touched on the combining of the two areas into one large area encompassing both former areas as well as the potential to form a division at some point. Ryan Moats asked what the new area number would be as well as updating the handbook as well as a number of other detail oriented questions. Whit Johnson stated that he has been in discussion with nationals and the new area number would be 29 09 as the Central Missouri area, the old number of the north area would no longer be used. He went on to say that there would need to be a 75% vote by the area membership in order to form a division. John Garavaglia commented that an update of the handbook would not be necessary. Whit Johnson went on to say that we need to identify all the division/area boundaries by county/state lines as opposed to the current system of utilizing zip codes. This work has been done for Iowa and the new Central Missouri area, but the other entities within the region are still lacking. Robert Simmons commented that this would be a sizeable amount of work and that some counties may be split. No motion was made yet, but the potential to do so was tabled for future consideration. Rick Liebich put forth a motion that each division/area director identify those members within their by county as opposed to zip codes. John Fales 2nded the motion. John Garavaglia had a question about the process national uses to identify these boundaries, Whit Johnson stated that this was primarily a region issues and that as long as any changes were within the region national would only require notifications. Whit Johnson added to the motion that this process should be completed with any recommended action by the summer BOD meeting. Ray Brady amended the motion that where counties overlapped that the directors needed to work together to clarify these overlap areas. Joe Braddock seconded the amendment. John Garavaglia reiterated the motion that division directors define their boundaries by counties and consult the

area directors to coordinate the redefined boundaries. The previous motions were withdrawn Whit Johnson made the motion on these recommendations and it was seconded by Craig Drekow Cowboy Line. A vote was taken and passed, unanimously.

Hank Kraichely, 15 minute break 11:30

Hank Kraichely reconvened at 11:40 am

### New Business

Ray Brady discussed his concerns over cyber security with sensitive region information. He elaborated that there were two division that had received bogus emails soliciting payments be made by the paymasters of said division. His specific concerns are that the contact information of each paymaster is identified. He has taken the steps to remove this information from their Brass Pounder newsletters. Continued that there are 9 divisions that list the paymaster contact information shown on the region website. Whit Johnson stated that what information posted on the region webpage should be left up to individual divisions. John Garavaglia asked if there was a two signature requirement on expenditures as a safe guard mechanism. Ryan Moats asked if there were and state requirements that division information be posted, John replied that for corporations yes. John Fales recommended a best practice in terms of what information is posted websites and dealing when dealing funds. Joe Braddock suggested that a protocol when dealing with funds should be put in place.

Hank Kraichely discussed ways in which we are looking to bring youth into the hobby. Robert Simmons discussed an effort with a local scouting group to develop a Lionel layout. He went on to discuss the youth in model railroading program the Denver and Rocky Mountain shows have put in place and have been using. He is in the process of obtaining the specifics on this information and utilizing it.

Bob Folkmann, presented the scouting report which consisted of discussing the railroad merit badge jamboree scheduled for May this year and that they typically were able to introduce railroading to about a 1000 boys. Whit Johnson elaborated further into exactly what the jamboree consisted of and how in introduced the attendees to model railroading. He went on to invite anyone who would like to help to come and help out.

Hank Kraichely commented on the Hawkeye model railroad clubs junior membership program, what it entails and is comprised of.

David Lowell, touched on the model railroading 101 program Gateway division is involved with. This year the venue will be moved to Mark Twain Hobbies on Fed 2<sup>nd</sup> at this point they have 20 slots available with 19 already being filled.

Louis Sebeil discussed their ongoing efforts with promoting the hobby at Kansas City union station.

Hank Kraichely passed out a sheet outlining a number of benefits the NMRA provides to its membership as a way to encourage others to join.

Whit Johnson nominating committee chair reported on the progress of assembling candidates for the membership to vote for in the upcoming election. He has been working with Larry Deihl, at this point Brad Slone as President, Robert Simmons as Vice President, two individuals interested in Secretary, Bob Folkmann as Treasurer and possibly another who has expressed interest. He stated plainly that any paper ballot received must include the membership number as a way to ensure there are no duplicate votes. Election results are to be turned into Hank Kraichely by the 15<sup>th</sup> of June.

Hank Kraichely stated that he was contacted by an individual to look at an appraise a collection for potential disposal. Whit Johnson stated that when these emails come up to reply everyone so that we know that these issues have been addresses.

Bruce Hochberger motion to adjoin

Whit Johnson 2<sup>nd</sup>

Meeting adjoined at 12:30 pm