

Big Train Operator Club

Board of Directors Teleconference Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, August 31, 2010

Call to Order/Roll Call:

Meeting was called to order at 8:04 pm EST by President Scott Fowler who reviewed the Agenda. Present were Rich Dulski (Vice-President); Dave Snow (Membership Chair); Robert Newsom (Vice-President); Bill Harryman (Secretary); Ralph S. Wilcox (Director); Anita Brown (Director); Lou Flammia (Director); Ralph E. Wilcox (Director Emeritus); Bob Somogyi (BTO Editor); Marshall Adams (Chair of BTOC Convention Committee). Absent was John Groot.

Secretary Report: Minutes of both the Friday, June 25th 2010 Board Meeting and the BTOC Members Annual Meeting, Saturday, June 26th, 2010 were e-mailed. After several e-mails, corrected copies were e-mailed a week before this meeting. Both sets of minutes were approved as E-Mailed.

Treasurers Report: In the absence of John Groot, Marshall Adams presented the Treasurers report, which was also e-mailed to the Board Members. The Balance Sheet shows Total Assets as of Aug 31, 2010 of \$ 28,729.86. The Income Statement shows income of \$936.33. Projected expenses for the balance of the year include printing and mailing of two issues of BTO and some residual 2010 Convention costs. Anticipated loss for the year is around \$1,300.00. The Financial Report was approved by the Board.

Membership Report: Dave Snow reported no changes in membership during August, with membership being 552 members. Six members are to be deleted Sept 1, making the club membership 546. The Membership Report was approved by the Board.

Editor's Report: Issue 137 is in the mail, and Issue 138 will be the Winter Issue and Club Calendar. The call for calendar photos was repeated. As stated, the cutoff date for photos is Oct 1, 2010. The Winter Issue will include a 'teaser' for the Boston Convention, with a full invitation and discussion in the Spring Issue. Under New Business, a Committee was called for to investigate the Printing of the BTO. Technology options have changed, and costs are fluid. It was felt that investigating options would allow us to maintain the quality of the BTO, and perhaps lower printing costs. Bob Somogyi is going to investigate. The Editors Report was approved by the Board.

Convention Report:

2011 Boston – sponsored by the Board of Directors. Events seem pretty well set. Still need to get something up on the web site. Hotel registration is up and running smoothly. Three or four board members have made their reservations. Board Members are urged to contact their local hobby shops for donations for the drawing.

2012 Tampa – to be sponsored by Mike Setzer. A copy of his photo presentation has been e-mailed to the Board Members. His daughter made a formal presentation at Atlantic City and invited the Board to bring the convention to Tampa in 2012. The presentation suggested an April or May date, but after discussion the Board indicated they prefer a late June date, so that more families may attend. The Board voted to accept the offer, and have the 2012 Convention in Tampa. The Board approved Marshall to

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negotiate with Mr. Setzer and work out a program that would be good for the club, with the suggestion to hold the convention in late June to encourage families to attend. The Board specifically decided not to advance any funds or seed money for the 2012 convention.

2013 Durango – to be sponsored by the Board of Directors. Holding the convention in Durango was discussed. There are some new hotels near the train station in Durango, and a number of railroad (and non-railroad) tourist activities around the area. The Board approved a motion to investigate holding the 2013 convention in Durango. Ralph Wilcox plans to travel there next summer, and will reconnoiter the area.

Old Business:

2010 Club Car: Marshall reported that we should be able to accommodate all 2nd orders received from Members thru the 10/1 order deadline, which will be delivered by 12/1/10.

2011 Club Car: An Aristocraft PCC Trolley body is needed so Bob Somogyi can design the artwork & billboard.

2011 Convention Car: Scott F. acquired some unmarked cars from USA Trains, which were forwarded to Bob Somogyi, to start designing billboards and markings.

New Business:

Finance Committee: The by-laws call for a Finance Committee, with a Vice-President as Chair. The committee is responsible to present a budget to be discussed and approved by the Board. Bob Newsome was appointed Chair.

Scott F. asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made and carried, ending the meeting at 8:55 EDT.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bill Harryman
BTOC Secretary