

# MUSKEGON RAILROAD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

*Steve Bowyer, President*  
*Andy Busard, Treasurer*  
*Jamey Morrison*  
*Jason Bach*

*Thomas Anderson, Vice President*  
*Thomas Van Bruggen, Secretary*  
*Jim Funnell*

### **Minutes of the April 17, 2007, MRHS Board of Director Meeting** **President Steve Bowyer, Presiding**

The Board Meeting of the Muskegon Railroad Historical Society was called to order by President Steve Bowyer at 7:02 P.M.

#### **Roll Call**

Present: Steve Bowyer, Thomas Anderson, Andy Busard, Thomas Van Bruggen, Jamey Morrison, Jim Funnell, Jason Bach  
Absent: None  
Guests: Guests: Five (5)

#### **Approval of Minutes of March 20, 2007 Board Meeting**

Moved by Jamey Morrison and supported by Thomas Anderson to suspend the reading of the March 20, 2007 Board Meeting Minutes and to approve the minutes as presented and any corrections needing to be made to be brought to the secretary in due course.

Motion Carried Unanimously

#### **Correspondence**

Reported by Secretary Thomas Van Bruggen

Grand Trunk Historical Society: Membership Card for renewal- To be placed on file with correspondence  
West Michigan Postal Customer Council Newsletter

#### **Treasurers Report**

Treasurer Andy Busard reported that due to computer viruses at his workplace, there is no treasurer's report.

#### **Committee Reports**

##### **Layout Committees**

##### **O Gauge**

O Gauge Chairman Kent McFaden was absent at the time of the report. Thomas Anderson reported that the layout was running fine.

##### **HO Gauge**

HO Gauge Chairman Jim Beal was absent due to illness. Andy Busard reported that switches still need to be replaced and that there is considerable confusion regarding the DCC/DC wiring.

##### **N Scale**

N Scale Chairman Jason Bach reported that the layout was running now. Maintenance does need to be done on the double crossover, and the switches to replace the crossover are on order.

#### **Building**

Building Chairman Jim Funnell reported that the building was "still here" and that the security system is fully working. Jim Bach reported on his completion of the system. It was commented that the system worked as intended last week as it deterred someone from coming up due to the notice.

#### **Historical Committee**

Historical Committee Chairman Jim Funnell reported that there was nothing new to report. There are a few books on order.

## **Train Shows**

Andy Busard, Train Show chairman reported that there was nothing to report. Jamey Morrison commented that the Iron Rails group has already inquired about the fall show. Thomas Van Bruggen asked if the fliers are needing to be printed soon, and Tom and Andy will meet to work out the details. Andy Busard did ask for input regarding the use of the postcards, and it was determined that they were cost effective, and other than a couple of initial glitches, they seemed to work well.

## **Program Committee**

Kent McFaden, Program Chairman, reported that Kevin Ruble from the Marquette Railroad will be presenting at our May meeting.

## **Publicity Committee**

Thomas Anderson reported that there was nothing new to report.

## **Donations Committee**

Steve Bowyer requested an update on the Standard Gauge train donation. Kent McFaden reported that Doc Radel is making good progress and is waiting for parts to come in. Kent also shared a picture of the caboose that has been repainted.

Steve reported on the list of items for sale from a contact during the open house. Steve and Jamey Morrison feel the items are not of club use, and we will post the list for members to review.

Thomas Anderson reported that he will be bringing up 8 to 10 hardcover books that are being donated. He had forgotten them at home.

Jamey Morrison donated a Wabash System Map and a binder with MDOT Train Crossing Regulations 2006.

## **Editorial Committee**

Thomas Van Bruggen reported he would be going to print with the May Newsletter on Monday, April 23, 2007. Tom indicated that he may need to reformat the May newsletter to properly fit the article that is being features on the Pere Marquette Passenger Trains.

Tom reported that he can feature member layouts on the club site. Jamey Morrison indicated he would like to start putting together a "West Michigan Railfanning Locations" portion of the web site with Tom.

## **Long Term Planning Committee**

Jim Funnell, chair of the Long Term Planning Committee stated that there has not been any real progress or action on the occupancy agreement. Significant discussion about the situation occurred, including the topics of:

The MHA is discussing the possibility of remodeling and moving the museum to the back so that the front portion of the building could be rented out for retail use.

The MHA has three (3) vacancies on their board.

The appraisal of the building has not moved forward. They have not been able to secure an appraiser, and there was no mention of the MRHS offer to pay half of the cost, up to a maximum of \$1,000.00.

Steve Bowyer recapped his feelings on the progress (or lack thereof) on the agreement, and that he has no solid feeling as to what the MHA as a whole wants to do.

Jim Funnell mentioned that the condominium development down the block may have significant financial impacts on the value of the MHA/MRHS facility

Andy Busard is investigating and documenting how much the MRHS has invested into the building. To this point, without all of the records being accounted for, it appears so far the amount is at least \$25,000, but records for numerous major projects have not been detailed to date. This was prompted by an e-mail received by Terry McAlister asking for a detailed list. Thomas Van Bruggen commented that he feels the MRHS should not be responding to requests from a single member of the MHA, but instead, to requests from the MHA board as a whole.

Jason Bach indicated that he may have a contact that could potential be of assistance to us if we were to look for other facilities in the downtown area.

It was determined that Andy Busard should continue documenting the financial investments the MRHS has done for the building. Jim Funnell offered to assist Andy in the process.

Steve Bowyer will work with Andy Busard on a draft of a transmittal letter should the need arise.

## **News & Views**

### **Rewiring of HO Layout**

Jamey Morrison discussed the idea of setting a timetable and having the club as a whole, regardless of individuals primary scale, work toward a full re-wiring of the HO Layout this summer. Additional discussion regarding setting standards of layout wiring occurred. Steve Bowyer suggested that we consider doing that and that we discuss it further over the next month.

### **PRR- Standard Railroad of the World**

As a follow up to the discussion of standards, Steve Bowyer commented that the PRR was the Standard Railroad of the World because they had a standard for everything.

### **NMRA Meeting**

Thomas Anderson reported that he and Kent McFaden represented the Muskegon area at a meeting in Grand Rapids about the 2012 NMRA convention. The group from Grand Rapids will need to continue working on the proposals.

## **Old Business**

### **Building Security**

Jim Bach reported that the security system was basically completed, and a final report would be made next month.

### **Whitcomb Engine**

Thomas Anderson reported that there was nothing to report regarding the Whitcomb.

### **Switch Stand Installation**

Thomas Anderson reported that there was nothing to report regarding the Switch Stand installation.

### **N Scale/Meeting Room Lighting**

Jim Bach is putting together a "parts list" of items he will need to rewire the lights in the N Scale/meeting room. This will include at least a roll of wire.

### **Pere Marquette Caboose Repairs**

Work on the caboose will wait until nicer weather later in the spring/summer.

### **Old Meijer Gift Cards**

Kent McFaden has used to old Meijer Gift Cards for purchasing pop for the club.

### **25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Railcars**

Andy Busard reported that he has been playing with some logos for the potential 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary car. George Korienek has been able to locate some undecorated cars. Andy reported that he talked with Pere Marquette Historical Society members and they are selling their cars at the cost of \$12.00, which is down from \$18.00. This price of \$12.00 was their cost to have the car created. The committee will continue to work on the project.

## **New Business:**

### **August General Membership Meeting**

Steve Bowyer inquired as to the feeling of the board regarding the August General Membership Meeting. It was discussed and determined that Thomas Anderson should work on setting up a train ride on the Coopersville & Marne again this year.

### **July General Membership Meeting**

Steve Bowyer inquired as to the scheduling of the July Membership Meeting, which would normally occur on Tuesday, July 3, 2007. It was determined that the meeting would be moved to Tuesday, July 10, 2007.

### **Posting of Items for Sale**

Jason Bach requested permission to post a list of HO items for sale. Steve Bowyer indicated this was acceptable.

### **Prototype Cars for Sale**

Thomas Anderson reported that the PM work car, a boxcar and caboose were for sale. The items are on display behind the Heart and Hand store on M-120. Discussion regarding the cars occurred, and future discussion regarding MRHS interest may be held.

### **Board Meeting and General Membership Meeting Minutes**

Thomas Van Bruggen asked for guidance regarding the printing of minutes for the meetings.

Moved by Andy Busard and supported by Jason Bach to have two (2) copies of the minutes available at the corresponding meeting.

Motion Carried Unanimously

### **Rolls for April Meeting**

Steve Bowyer asked for a volunteer to provide rolls for the April meeting. Kent McFaden volunteered.

### **Adjournment of Board Meeting of April 17, 2007**

Moved by Jamey Morrison and supported by Thomas Anderson to adjourn the Board Meeting of April 17, 2007. at 8:29 pm.

Motion Carried

### **Minutes submitted by Secretary Thomas Van Bruggen**

### **Treasurers Reports**

**No reports from this meeting.**