



Muskegon Railroad Historical Society  
561 W. Western Ave  
P.O. Box 765  
Muskegon, MI 49443  
231-726-3657

## Minutes of the October 16, 2007, MRHS Board of Directors Meeting President Steve Bowyer, Presiding

The October 16, 2007 Board Meeting of the Muskegon Railroad Historical Society was called to order by President Steve Bowyer at 7:04 P.M.

### Roll Call

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

### Presentation of Minutes

President Steve Bowyer noted that the minutes from the previous meeting had been presented and corrections should be forwarded to the secretary in due course.

### Correspondence

Reported by Secretary Thomas Van Bruggen  
None

Reported by Treasurer Andy Busard

E-mail from Dan Rinsema-Sybenga of Muskegon Area First

Requesting us to have a small layout in the lobby of the Frauenthal during their presentation of the Polar Express on either December 22 or 23. Board consensus was to participate and Kent McFaden offered to have his portable O gauge layout available. Thomas Van Bruggen will contact Dan with our support.

### Presidents Report

President Steve Bowyer had no report

### Secretaries Report

Secretary Thomas Van Bruggen had no report

### Treasurers Report

Treasurer Andy Busard reported that expenses are outpacing income for 2007. To date, we have expended \$357 more than our income. Andy estimated we would be about \$2000 down for the year. Discussion talked about some of the special allocations that have occurring during the year.

The financial reports of the treasurer are attached to the end of these minutes.

### Committee Reports

#### Layout Committees

##### O Gauge

O Gauge Chairman Kent McFaden reported that the layout was still running good, and there have been no problems lately.

##### HO Gauge

HO Gauge Chairman Patrick Herman was absent. Jim Funnell reported that there had been a small wiring problem but that was corrected. Discussion about the lights being left on was heard.

##### N Scale

N Scale Chairman Jason Bach reported that he and Jim Bach installed the plexi-glass shielding. Jason also noted that a gate needed to be added before the open houses to keep kids out of the back of the layout.

## **Building**

Building Chairman Jim Funnell reported that the building was "still here" and things were running OK. Jim noted that there was some trouble with the furnace over the pas weekend where it did not want to start up.

## **Historical Committee**

Historical Committee Chairman Jim Funnell reported that the 45 Railroad Video Quarterly DVD's had been received and that copies for check out needed to be made. Discussion regarding the process of copying DVD's occurred.

Moved by Andy Busard and supported by Jim Funnell to purchase a DVD burner drive for the club computer at a cost of \$110.00 plus tax.

Open Discussion: Funding location – general fund

Motion Carried

## **Train Shows**

Andy Busard, Train Show Chairman reported that he had paid the LC Walker Arena but had adjusted the payment for the standard \$5.00 per table fee, even though we had been billed for 10 tables at the cost of \$10 each. Andy reported that he had one dealer check bounce. This dealer had 8 tables. Andy sent the dealer a letter regarding the bounced check. Andy reported that in total we would have a profit of approximately \$1600.00

## **Program Committee**

Kent McFaden, Program Chairman, reported that he has programs lined up through December and that he was working on January and February programs. November will be Dave Stroebe and the NMRA group from Grand Rapids, and December will be Andy Busard.

## **Publicity Committee**

Thomas Anderson, Publicity Committee Chairman had no report and requested information regarding the Christmas Holiday Open Houses.

## **Donations Committee**

Steve Bowyer, Donations Committee Chairman reported that Jim Funnell was donating 12 books and 6 sets of magazines. Kent McFaden reported that Patrick Herman had donated a book and Milwaukee Road Historical Society newsletters.

## **Editorial Committee**

Thomas Van Bruggen, Editorial Committee Chairman reported that he will be adding Membership Renewal Forms in the newsletter. Tom also requested articles for the newsletter. Tom reported that the website has been seeing significant traffic.

## **Special Committee Reports**

### **Long Term Planning Committee**

Jim Funnell, Long Term Planning Committee Chairman had no report. Steve Bowyer reported that he presented a couple of items to the Muskegon Heritage Association last week. Steve presented the MHA with a letter withdrawing our original occupancy agreement which resulted in silence. Steve also presented the new proposal for the usage of the back room. That proposal resulted in no questions but was referred to a committee. We are now waiting for something from the MHA and we may need to re-establish the MRHS committee. Additional discussion was held regarding our position with the MHA.

Moved by Jason Bach and supported by Andy Busard to schedule a Special Board Meeting for October 30, 2007 at 7:00 pm at the MRHS facilities to discuss potential financial relationship with the MHA.

Motion Carried

Andy Busard reported on his continued work on tracking what has been spent by the MRHS over the years on the building improvements we have made. So far, Andy has documented \$24,590.71 in receipts but there are several years where records are very sparse. Steve Bowyer requested that Andy continue and make his best estimates where needed, including the project of labor costs.

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

Thomas Anderson, 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee Chairman, reported that they are continuing work on the coffee mugs, and are also working on the details for a decaled train car. The committee will meet to continue the work.

## **Pere Marquette Caboose Restoration Committee**

Kent McFaden, Caboose Restoration Committee chairman reported that he has started working on the caboose. All four cupola windows had been kicked out. Three had been found but one was missing. Moved by Thomas Anderson and supported by Andy Busard to authorize Kent McFaden to spend up to \$15 for new window materials

Motion Carried

Kent also reported that he obtained an estimate for new plastic protective strips for the ladders. The estimate would be \$27.50 each and we would need 2. Discussion followed, and these could also be made out of wood for less money. It was determined that we could use the old ones for this winter and we can review these next spring, as the caboose will also need to be painted again.

## **2008 Calendar Committee**

Andy Busard reported that he had a proof copy of the calendar. The pricing this year will be less because the calendar will be bound with a comb binding and have separate pages, which reduces the printing costs. The cost for printing will be \$6.35 per calendar. The calendars will again be sold for \$12.00 each. Discussion followed, including Jason Bach reporting that the cover picture was by Jerry Tyler and he needed to be contacted for permission. Kent McFaden reported that he would contact Jerry. Calendar dates were reviewed.

Moved by Thomas Van Bruggen and supported by Thomas Anderson to move the January 2008 General Membership Meeting to January 8<sup>th</sup>, instead of January 1, 2008.

Motion Carried

Moved by Thomas Van Bruggen and supported by Thomas Anderson to move the July 2008 General Membership Meeting from July 1 to July 8, 2008 due to the Summer Celebration Festival.

Motion Carried.

## **Business and Project Updates**

### **Whitcomb Engine**

Thomas Anderson had no report. Andy Busard reported that he had not found anything regarding any official financial commitment to this point by the MRHS regarding the Whitcomb restoration.

### **Switch Stand Installation**

Thomas Anderson was absent and had no report.

### **Grand Haven Museum N Scale Layout Project**

Steve Bowyer reported that he and Mark Kelley had met with Steve Radke of the Grand Haven Museum regarding the floor plan and track plan of the room where the layout would be built. The museum needs to complete the space before any work could begin.

## **News & Views**

### **Convention & Visitors Bureau Call**

Jason Bach reported that the CVB called regarding the missing caboose windows.

### **Railroad Spikes**

Steve Bowyer requested spikes from Thomas Anderson.

### **MRHS Computer**

Steve Bowyer discussed the issue of items that are not MRHS property being on the MRHS Computer. Open discussion followed.

## **Unfinished Business**

### **Nominating Committee**

Steve Bowyer reported that the Nominating Committee had been formed. Thomas Van Bruggen, committee chairman reported that the committee would meet after the board meeting tonight.

## **New Business**

### **Disposition of Old VHS video tapes**

Jim Funnell requested direction as to how to handle the retiring VHS videos that are being replaced by DVD's.

Moved by Thomas Van Bruggen and supported by Andy Busard to destroy the VHS video copies as we obtain and replace the VHS videos with DVD's.

Motion Carried.

### **Establishment of Budget Committee**

Moved by Thomas Van Bruggen and supported by Thomas Anderson to establish a 2008 Budget Committee with Andy Busard as the Chairman.

Motion Carried

Volunteers for the committee included Thomas Anderson and Jason Bach.

### **Office Supplies**

Thomas Van Bruggen, secretary reported that he will need to purchase labels, business cards, and envelopes for the upcoming year and newsletter mailings.

Moved by Thomas Anderson and supported by Jason Bach to authorize Thomas Van Bruggen to spend up to \$300.00 for office supplies.

Motion Carried.

### **Removal of Historic Members from MRHS Newsletter Mailing**

Thomas Van Bruggen requested permission to remove 26 names from the monthly mailing list. All of these represented people that have not been a member since at least 2003. The list of names were read and it was determined that Noel Black should be left on the list.

Moved by Andy Busard and supported by Jason Bach to remove 25 names from the MRHS mailing list.  
Motion Carried.

## **Announcements**

### **Rolls for November General Membership Meeting**

Steve Bowyer requested a volunteer to pick up rolls for the October General Membership Meeting. Kent McFaden volunteered.

## **Adjournment of Meeting**

Steve Bowyer, President, adjourned the October 16, 2007 MRHS Board Meeting at.

## **Minutes Submitted by Thomas Van Bruggen, Secretary.**

**25th Anniversary!**  
MUSKEGON RAILROAD



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**Treasurers Reports:**

Monthly Income and Expenses by Category											
1/1/2007 through 10/16/2007											
Category	1/1/2007 - 1/31/2007	2/1/2007 - 2/28/2007	3/1/2007 - 3/31/2007	4/1/2007 - 4/30/2007	5/1/2007 - 5/31/2007	6/1/2007 - 6/30/2007	7/1/2007 - 7/31/2007	8/1/2007 - 8/31/2007	9/1/2007 - 9/30/2007	10/1/2007 - 10/16/2007	Total
<b>Income</b>											
Donations		3.00	22.50					20.00	49.10		94.60
Dues	580.00	210.00	160.00	130.00	50.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	50.00		1,240.00
Flea Mkt-Fall07								504.00	2,073.94	17.00	2,594.94
Flea Mkt-Spring07	108.00	326.00	2,473.50						144.00		3,051.50
Flea Mkt-Spring08									18.00		18.00
Food Sales			42.00								42.00
Fund Raiser	124.00	66.00	77.00	18.00	8.00				3.00		296.00
Investment Income			51.16				1.88				53.04
Miscellaneous Club		171.85					57.00	10.00			238.85
Other Income	35.00		53.00								88.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>847.00</b>	<b>776.85</b>	<b>2,879.16</b>	<b>148.00</b>	<b>58.00</b>	<b>20.00</b>	<b>78.88</b>	<b>554.00</b>	<b>2,338.04</b>	<b>17.00</b>	<b>7,716.93</b>
<b>Expenses</b>											
Advertisements						27.95					27.95
Annual Picnic								124.00			124.00
Building	17.55	18.68	18.75	193.47	141.85	329.50					719.80
Copy_Machine						260.00					260.00
Flea Mkt-Fall 07						241.80		85.95	300.00	655.00	1,282.75
Flea Mkt-Spring 07	39.00	245.15	376.70	70.26		575.00					1,306.11
Flea Mkt-Spring 08									60.65		60.65
Layouts		243.31		38.38	31.24	195.95		59.26			568.14
Library	30.00	137.79	215.29	109.20		127.05			420.00	30.00	1,069.33
Membership/Society				40.00						75.00	115.00
Newsletter	36.11	53.14	54.40	53.13	35.35	35.36	17.86		35.72	175.00	496.07
Office Expense	43.44	79.39		79.82		52.00	29.97			29.97	314.59
Utilities		467.04	155.73	305.89		212.78	20.99	257.04	310.51		1,729.98
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>166.10</b>	<b>1,244.50</b>	<b>820.87</b>	<b>890.15</b>	<b>208.44</b>	<b>2,057.39</b>	<b>68.82</b>	<b>526.25</b>	<b>1,126.88</b>	<b>964.97</b>	<b>8,074.37</b>
<b>Income less Expenses</b>	<b>680.90</b>	<b>(467.65)</b>	<b>2,058.29</b>	<b>(742.15)</b>	<b>(150.44)</b>	<b>(2,037.39)</b>	<b>10.06</b>	<b>27.75</b>	<b>1,211.16</b>	<b>(947.97)</b>	<b>(357.44)</b>

Account Balances	
As of 10/16/2007	
Account	Total
<b>Assets</b>	
Bank and Cash Accounts	
Bulk Mail	338.04
Cash Account	149.08
CPR-Coffee-Pop-Rolls	124.00
Fifth Third Bancorp Checking	535.00
Fifth Third Bancorp Savings	-
Huntington Checking	9,402.87
Huntington Savings	5,961.07
Muskegon School Emp CU Savings	375.01
<b>Total Bank and Cash Accounts</b>	<b>16,885.07</b>
<b>Investment Accounts</b>	
14684-5-0 C-75 (18751468)	304.75
14684-5-0 C-75 (18751468) (Cash)	7,871.57
Muskegon School Emp C Investment	8,316.83
Muskegon School Emp C Inv (Cash)	(8,316.83)
<b>Total Investment Accounts</b>	<b>8,176.32</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>25,061.39</b>
<b>Net Worth</b>	<b>25,061.39</b>