

# FRIENDS OF THE NEVADA STATE RAILROAD MUSEUM

---

## VIRGINIA AND TRUCKEE DIVISION

P.O. Box 1330  
Carson City, Nevada 89702



MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 11, 2008  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
NEVADA STATE RAILROAD MUSEUM  
CARSON CITY, NEVADA

**Call to Order** – Meeting was called to order at 6:01 PM

**Role Call** – Present were Russ Tanner, Mike Dunn, Jerry Barth, Barry Simcoe, Stan Cronwall, John Schilling, and Kurt Dietrich. Absent and excused were Bill Kohler, Peter Barton and Chris MacMahon. A quorum was established.

**Minutes** – Kurt Dietrich presented the minutes of the October 17, 2008 meeting to the Board. A motion to accept the Minutes was made by Stan Cronwall, seconded by John Schilling. Motion passed.

**Correspondence** – Kurt Dietrich received a letter from a Dave Connery. Mr. Connery expressed his opinion that the pin program discussed during the October meeting should not be implemented. Ron Allen stated that a membership poll is currently underway through membership renewals. To date, 11 members voted Yes, and 4 voted No.

Bill Kohler (not present) received a letter from Peter Barton. Mr. Barton released the following preliminary 2008 Thanksgiving weekend data:

Total visitation declined 27%

Admission revenue declined 33%

Train riders declined 5%

Train ride revenue declined 13%

Store revenues increased 10%

**Treasurer's Report** – Barry Simcoe reported funds as follows:

\$26,076.32 – Checking

\$18,187.81 – Savings

\$44,264.13 – Total All Accounts

Barry stated that the Friends must not accumulate a high balance to retain IRS 501c3 status.

A motion to accept Treasurer's Report was made by Kurt Dietrich. Motion seconded by Stan Cronwall. Motion passed.

**Report of Trustee Activity since the previous Regular Meeting** – Russ Tanner stated that the following purchases were authorized under Board consent:

\$50.00 – Air conditioning unit for interpretive center front desk.

\$150.00 – Refrigerator for bottled water sales.

\$500.00 – Advertising for Santa Train.

## **OLD BUSINESS – STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Audit Committee** – No report.

**Brick Sales Committee** – Laning Clifford reported that 68 bricks have been sold in 2008 to date.

Mike Dunn stated that an application was lost. Ron Allen and Darlene Berry confirmed receipt of the application in question.

Darlene Berry suggested raising brick prices to levels comparable to other museums. Russ Tanner stated the price was recently raised to \$50. Russ suggested for Darlene to raise this issue after the new Board is installed.

**Election Committee** – No report.

**Finance Committee** – John Schilling presented the 2009 Budget. A discussion took place regarding the need for an audit. Darlene Berry suggested utilizing a Friends member who has a CPA credential. Barry Simcoe stated that the initial audit is quite involved and costly, due to the professional risk involved.

Barry Simcoe, seconded by Stan Cronwall, made a motion to accept the 2009 Budget as presented. Motion passed.

John warned that income may be reduced due to the current economic conditions.

**Fund Raising Committee** – Ron Allen stated that Save Mart has shipped him shopping cards, and will be distributing them shortly after instructions are received.

**Interpretive Committee** – No report.

**Membership Committee** – Susan Allen (not present) reported the following membership levels as of November 30<sup>th</sup>:

Seniors:	225
Individuals:	158
Family:	371
Senior Couple:	228
Sustaining:	77
Contributing:	14
Patron:	2
Life Time:	4
Student:	5

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP: 1,084

**Membership Fee Review Committee** – Jerry Barth reported no changes to the fee structure. Fees will be reevaluated in 2009.

**Membership Recruitment Committee** – Stan Cronwall stated that he is reasonably satisfied that the membership has not slipped significantly. Stan stated that he will be working Santa Train.

Stan stated that he will be distributing the proposed 2009 operating schedule. Barry Simcoe cautioned that it may be too early to distribute the schedule. John Schilling suggested printing the schedule in color to draw attention to the document. Russ Tanner asked Stan to check with Peter Barton or Frank Ackerman before the schedule is distributed.

Mike Dunn suggested publishing a toll free number on the website. Russ Tanner asked Mike Dunn to research the possibility.

**Operations – Motorcar** – No report.

**Operations – Steam** – Barry Simcoe stated that the Santa Train schedule is posted.

Barry recommended ceasing operations after 4 p.m. for safety reasons.

Barry stated that the “your hand is on the throttle” program trial run exceeded expectations.

Mike Dunn stated that a cab ride ticket holder missed a scheduled train due to nonrevenue riders in the cab. Mike stated that the engine crew should have handled the situation differently. Barry Simcoe stated that only ticket holders and necessary crew members are allowed in the cab, and the engine crew had the situation handled. A discussion took place. Bryan Berry suggested for the ticket agent to write the train on the ticket. Russ Tanner suggested that John Frink write a policy concerning the sales of cab ride tickets.

**Promotions and Publicity** – No report.

**Sagebrush Headlight** – Frank Ackerman stated that the next edition will be mailed shortly, and contains gift giving and store related information.

**Symposium Committee** – Frank Ackerman stated that six speakers have committed themselves to the program. The 2009 program will feature notable passenger trains of Nevada.

**Website Committee** – Mike Dunn asked the Board for input regarding the gift giving program, and how to properly set up the online shopping cart. Kurt Dietrich offered his assistance, however recommended that the shopping cart be managed jointly between the Webmaster and Treasurer.

**Youth Program Committee** – Chris MacMahon was not present for an update. Frank Ackerman stated that he met with Peter Barton and Chris MacMahon regarding program specifics. Frank stated that the program is not ready for implementation in its current form.

Frank stated that the Museum's immediate need is for volunteers to staff the gift store and annex building. Frank is currently pursuing options with the Eagle Scout program and local high school business programs.

**OTHER OLD BUSINESS** – None.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Museum Funding** – Chris Dewitt (not present) is requesting a disbursement for the purchase of two manual controllers for the McKeen car primary pumps. Chris estimates the equipment and shipping at \$1,800. Kurt Dietrich, seconded by Barry Simcoe, made a motion to authorize the purchase of the controllers for a not-to-exceed amount of \$2,000. Motion passed.

**Upcoming Events** – Russ Tanner stated that the Santa Train is this upcoming weekend.

**Other New Business** – Ron Allen stated that he believes payment is due for the Railroad History publication. Russ Tanner asked Ron to check the account status with the Treasurer.

**Board or Trustees Member Comments** – Kurt Dietrich stated that if any “thank you” letters need to go out on behalf of the Board, for the requestor to email him specifics.

**General Comments** – None.

**Adjournment** – Barry Simcoe, seconded by John Schilling, made a motion to adjourn. Meeting was adjourned at 7:34 PM.

**Call to Order** – The Board mutually agreed to allow outgoing Trustee Russ Tanner to conduct the meeting. The meeting was called to order at 7:34 PM .

**Role Call** – Present were Darlene Berry, Ron Allen, Jerry Barth, Barry Simcoe, Stan Cronwall, John Schilling, and Kurt Dietrich. Absent and excused were Bill Kohler, Peter Barton and Chris MacMahon. A quorum was established.

**Election of Officers** –

Russ Tanner requested nominations for President. Ron Allen, seconded by Barry Simcoe, nominated Bill Kohler for President. Hearing no further nominations, Russ Tanner asked the Board to close nominations. Barry Simcoe, seconded by Ron Allen, moved to close nominations. Board accepts Bill Kohler for President.

Russ Tanner requested nominations for Vice President. Kurt Dietrich, seconded by Barry Simcoe, nominated Ron Allen for Vice President. Hearing no further nominations, Russ Tanner asked the Board to close nominations. John Schilling, seconded by Barry Simcoe, moved to close nominations. Board accepts Ron Allen for Vice President.

Russ Tanner requested nominations for Secretary. Ron Allen, seconded by Barry Simcoe, nominated Kurt Dietrich for Secretary. Hearing no further nominations, Russ Tanner asked the Board to close nominations. Ron Allen, seconded by Barry Simcoe, moved to close nominations. Board accepts Kurt Dietrich for Secretary.

Russ Tanner requested nominations for Treasurer. Barry Simcoe, seconded by John Schilling, nominated Darlene Berry for Treasurer. Hearing no further nominations, Russ Tanner asked the Board to close nominations. Barry Simcoe, seconded by Kurt Dietrich, moved to close nominations. Board accepts Darlene Berry for Treasurer.

The aforementioned executive officers are authorized by the Board of Trustees to conduct business with the US Bank accounts of record.

**Adjournment** – Barry Simcoe, seconded by Kurt Dietrich, made a motion to adjourn. Meeting was adjourned at 7:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kurt M. Dietrich". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "K".

Kurt Dietrich,

Secretary