

Have established Headlight Society of people who have included PNRA in their estate plan, meet with them once per year.

- c. Treasurer – at 11:00 AM. Called Bill Sornsins by phone. New bookkeeper this year, found in July 2017 that 2016 had not been done.
2015 - \$292,799.00 in cash assets. Does not include inventory.
2016 - \$300,810.00 in cash assets.
Funds:
Hustle Muscle \$32,727.00.
Memorial \$2,000.00
Archival \$6,400.00
Property \$11,970.00
Publishing Reserve - \$12,000.00
Heritage - \$8,000.00

- d. Publications – read by Don McGlothlin. Report included with minutes. Discussion from floor on reducing the amount of over-run with each issue. No decision made.
 - i. Proof Reader Discussion – led by Ben Ringnalda. We need to have a better system of proofing each issue to prevent typos and grammar mistakes. Editor not happy with idea of having Goat proofread. We as a board don't have an understanding of what goes on with the publications team, what is their criteria and how is it decided what to publish? Director Korst volunteered to be on a proofreader panel, as did Bill McKinley. Board will put together questions that concern board and will discuss it with Editor.

Possibility of setting up an editorial board. Director Tanner – we are first and foremost a historical society, we publish reference sheets and historical facts, should have a policy regarding what articles we accept, reference sheets, opinion papers.

- T. Michael Powers letter will be discussed by board.

- e. Company Store – presented by Bob Ulberg. About 25 steam books left.

Break at 9:03 AM.

- f. Web Site – Ben Ringnalda. Cost of web site down \$50.00 per year. New host last year, better speed and service. Any info you have for the Goat please send to the web site as well. There is also a lot of interest in the Facebook page, done by Bruce Goesser.

Motion to encourage GNRHS staff to use web site and our Facebook page as a tool to communicate with our members.

Moved: Ringnalda Second: McGlothlin **CARRIED**

Ben Ringnalda to look into new software for managing the company store online as present software will no longer be supported in the future.

Recently published first digital Goat. Will look into possibility of a digital subscription to Goat. Will also look into getting reference sheet sets together.

Ben Ringnalda needs help, an assistant Webmaster is needed. Lindsey Korst volunteered to be the assistant.

- g. Hobby Stores – No Report.
- h. Archive Report – Stu Holmquist presented. Need for compatible computer programs in both Jack St. and Burien. Budget request includes computers and web site that both sites can access. Very important that both sites can work together.

Working on list of public timetables that are in archives.

Jeff Otto spoke on joint database that both archives can use. Plan was to use Microsoft software to accomplish this; Microsoft has not delivered that software yet. Current SharePoint software does not have capability to do what we need it to do.

Don McGlothlin – we need to look at other software to get this accomplished.

- i. New Software Update
- ii. Remote Cataloging Update

i. Hustle Muscle Report - Gary Nelson presented. Updated on information about HM, including when crankshaft problem was first discovered, and way no information was forthcoming immediately. New engine will be supplied, transported and installed at no cost by BNSF. Northtown Diesel Shop is capable of doing the work. They are willing to do additional work for us as well. Work to be done before March 2018. In return GNRHS will provide train rides for Northtown employees and show our appreciation for their help. Thanks to Steve Skoglund - General Foreman at Northtown for all his help and BNSF VP Mechanical Jeff Wright.

i. Update on the Engine Repair

ii. Money required for Repair – John Langlot. Currently \$30,000.00 in repair fund. We should do a thorough inspection of HM to make sure everything is fully reconditioned, pay for what is necessary while the engine is apart and make sure the engine is fully reconditioned.

Jeff Otto – commented on how well Gary Nelson communicates with board over HM developments. We don't want information broadcast to public to avoid unwanted harassment of BNSF by well-meaning rail fans.

GNRHS members to be advised there is a plan in place to repair HM and that plan will be implemented shortly.

Thanks to Gary Nelson and all involved with HM.

Break at 10:44 AM. 11:00 AM

- j. Membership Report – Andy Kearn.
- Recruited members are down and retention is dwindling, still above the 2000 mark.
 - Doing everything we can to recruit younger members.
 - Doing 12 shows in the east.
 - Stickers go over well with younger kids.
 - Bruce Goesser is staying until end of 2018.

Director Tanner commented that membership recruitment is vital to keep the organization alive and well, we maintain archives and research, it is important to have younger members joining.

Director Ringnalda suggested extending veteran's memberships to BN employees as well as HM did run under BN as well.

Motion to welcome Burlington Northern Veterans to join the GNRHS at the Great Northern Veterans rate, and to rename the GN Veteran rate to GN/BN Veterans Rate.

Moved: Ringnalda Second: Tanner **CARRIED**

We have over 3000 people following the Facebook page, but they don't take the next step of joining the society. Discussion on sending renewal invoices to members either as a separate mailing or as a separate form in the Goat package.

Don McGlothlin - Thanks to Jeff Otto for putting together a database to track convention attendance this year.

Brief discussion on tracking members who join from Classic Trains adds. There is also the possibility of increasing size of add and advertising products recently introduced in company store.

Member Kent Cavaghan suggested reduced price for digital only memberships, as well as advertising in Model Railroad Hobbyist magazine.

- i. New Ideas for Recruitment
- ii. Feedback on why members are not renewing memberships – calling by phone did not work well, people not interested in discussing it.
- iii. Milwaukee 2018 update – Tyrone. Trainfest is the largest show in the Midwest. We have a booth. Show has a "celebrate a railroad" theme; in November 2018 it will be the GN, show hires professional add agency to promote it. Have several volunteers who will help man the booth.

Suspended at 11:58 AM until 2:00 PM. Reconvened at 2:03 PM with Directors Ulberg & Nelson absent.

Move to give Steve Skoglund of BNSF Railway a life membership in GNRHS in recognition of his service to the organization.

Moved: Ringnalda Second: Langlot **CARRIED**

Discussion on giving Northtown employees a pass to ride the HM anytime they like. Discussion on creating a special membership category for Northtown Diesel Shop employees.

Discussion on making lifetime memberships an award for service to the society.

Move that a lifetime membership may be used as an award by the board of directors to recognize worthy individuals.

Moved: McGlothlin

Second: Langlot

CARRIED

3. Conventions – Mary McGlothlin NCO

- i. Update – Sioux Falls – Mary. 90 registered members with 138 total attendees, including families and spouses. Did meet room requirements with hotel. Tours and banquet covering costs. Hotel costs may be a bit over. Most staying at hotel. Things going well.
 1. ADA Interpreter Discussion – tabled to Email discussion.
- ii. Update – Bellingham WA. – 2018 – Tom Carr. Budget of \$65,300.00. Committee has put in a lot of work. There is an after tour with Bellingham. No problem with allowing Central Hobbies to sponsor goody bags and have table at Confed.
- iii. Update – Fargo ND – July 2019 – Tyrone Johnson - he has taken on the role of local committee chair, already has three additional volunteers. Holiday Inn. Looking at a very interesting program for attendees. GN, NP and Milwaukee Road depots still standing.
- iv. Update – Nelson BC – 2020 – Tom Carr Spoke about joint convention with CPHA in Nelson.
- v. Discussion of location for 2021 – Mary – Wilmer or Watertown, both can accommodate us. Also possibly Fort Worth, TX.

Moved to hold 2021 Convention in Wilmer
Moved: Korst Second: Ringnalda **CARRIED**
Discussion on drawing young families to convention, what is best time of year, July or September.
Thanks to Mary McGlothlin for holding this year’s convention.

4. Heritage Fund Awards
 - i. Approval – West Coast Railway - \$2500 (2nd year – approved 2016)
 - ii. Approval – Ferry County - \$2000 (3rd Year of 4 – approved 2016) – Langlot reported Ferry County hotels very pleased with boost in tourism that has resulted from our visit their in 2016.
 - iii. Discussion – Award – Mille Lacs Co. Historical Society -\$2600. Request for assistance in restoring old GN Longsiding Depot.
Moved: McGlothlin Second: Ringnalda **CARRIED**

President to direct Treasurer to transfer profit from Spokane Convention to heritage fund.

5. Approval of Budgets – Tabled for email discussion upon arrival of financial report from Treasurer.

6. New Business Items
Director Ringnalda – should we be posting things like the budget on the web site for the world to see? No decision made.

PayPal and credit card payments on web site. Some discussion over getting a square for use in taking payments with a smart phone. Board to investigate other payment methods for use on the web site.

7. Adjourn Meeting – Time: 3:35 pm.
Moved: Langlot Second: Ringnalda **CARRIED**

Board Email Actions
2016-2017

September 20, 2016 / December 17, 2016

Motion by Director McGlothlin, Second by Director Korst: To approve Nelson B.C. as the location for the 2020 convention location. Motion passed 7-0. **CARRIED**

October 27, 2016

On a motion by Director Langlot and a second by Director Korst, the GNRHS Board of Directors has approved the exceeding of the Heritage Fund spending cap for 2016. Vote 7-0. **CARRIED**

November 1, 2016

Motion by Director Langlot, Second by Director McGlothlin to award the Somers Town Project \$1500 to defray the cost of material for home built cabinets in the museum. Motion passed 7-0 **CARRIED**

Motion by Director Korst, Second by Director Langlot: To award the West Coast Railway Association \$2500 for 2016 and 2017 with 2017 subject to the availability of funds. Motion passed 7-0 **CARRIED**

December 22, 2016

Any proceeds from the Annual Convention will be deposited in the Heritage Fund to benefit worthy projects that keep Great Northern history alive. On a year to year basis the Board may elect to assign said proceeds to other parts of its operation as it deems necessary.

Motion by Ben Ringnalda, second by Don McGlothlin. Motion passes 6 - 1 on 12/22/2016 **CARRIED**

January 23, 2017

Moved by Director McGlothlin, Seconded by Director Ulberg; To allow Treasure Bill Sornsins to accept the Engagement Letter from Colley Business Services, Inc. The Engagement letter shall include a reasonable monthly cap on expenses at the rates stated in the letter. Motion passed 7-0 **CARRIED**

February 7, 2017

Motion by Director McGlothlin and second by Director Nelson: To authorize the Publication Officer to spend up to \$700 for the replacement of a computer and purchase of a scanner for publication usage. Motion passed 7-0 **CARRIED**

March 8, 2017

Motion by Director McGlothlin, Second by Director Nelson: To establish the ballot and nominating committee to conduct the election for 3 Board of Directors position. Chairman, Director Tanner, members Directors Langlot and Ringnalda. Motion passed 7-0 **CARRIED**

March 8, 2017

"The Board authorizes the President to sign an extension of the GN 400 Hustle Muscle lease with the Minnesota Transportation museum for two (2) more years. This with the stipulation that no major changes are made to the existing lease except without separate Board approval and that MTM will cooperate with a possible move of Hustle Muscle to Sioux Falls for the GNRHS convention, and the expectation that Hustle Muscle will be moved into heated indoor space when it becomes available." Motion passed unanimously. **CARRIED**

May 10, 2017

Motion by Director McGlothlin second by Director Ulberg: Motion: to approve the deaccession of the material to the SP&S Historical Society for relocation to their archives at the PNRA. Motion passed unanimously. **CARRIED**

June 18, 2017

Motion by Director McGlothlin second by Director Ulberg: To place Director John Langlot on the GNRHS membership committee. The motion passed 7-0. **CARRIED**