



LOS ANGELES DIVISION BUSINESS MEETING

Meeting held On-Line via Zoom Application

Date: March 11, 2021, 8:00 P.M.

ATTENDING:

<u>Superintendent</u>	Vic Cavalli	<u>Clerk Paymaster/Achievement</u>	James Keena
<u>Director</u>	Mona Raymer	<u>Webmaster</u>	
<u>Member Aide</u>	Lloyd Lehrer	<u>Graphics</u>	
<u>Membership Recruitment</u>	Bob DeMoss	<u>Membership Retention</u>	Vic Cavalli
<u>Non-Rails</u>		<u>Assistant Non-Rails</u>	
<u>PSR President</u>	Pat Raymer	<u>Facebook</u>	Kevin Spady
<u>Buddy System</u>	Mike O'Brian	<u>Communication Coordinator</u>	Nick Lisica
<u>Others Present</u>	Ron Westlund		

Call to Order

Superintendent Vic Cavalli called the L. A. Division Advisory Board meeting to order at 8:02 P.M.

Approval of Minutes

The meeting minutes of February 11, 2021 were approved unanimously.
Minutes of the Annual Membership Meeting of February 20, 2021 were approved unanimously with the addition of the Model Railroads of Southern California Group IO link.

Financial Report

The Division currently has the following funds:

Checking	\$9,188.58
Savings	\$5,103.25
Total	\$14,291.83

Budget

The Advisory Board felt that the need of maintaining the ability of processing credit cards at this time could canceled, which would save the monthly merchant service fee of \$10.00.

Lloyd Lehrer suggested that when the need for Division to be able process credit cards again to utilized TechSoup.org which is designed for non-profits.

Cost to print issues of the LA Coupler is about \$12.00 each. It was suggested that BestValueCopy.com located on the east coast be use to keep cost down. Lloyd Lehrer volunteered to print the LA Coupler on his home printer as an alternative.

For the Los Angeles Area Prototype Modelers meet it was suggested to ask Jeff Smith to cover half the cost of the \$50.00 NMRA insurance certificate for the event. James Keena pointed out that Jeff Smith in the past provided a majority of the color printing for the Division at basically free of charge at just the cost of the paper. It was agreed that the LA Division would continue to provide the insurance certificate for the event as a budgeted item as well as the NMRA Rail Pass gift membership as a raffle prize.

The LA Division approved COVID-19 Policy is that not to have events until the County reaches the Yellow Tier Level. If the fall or winter modular event at the South Coast Botanical Gardens is allowed to be held it would have to follow the LA County guidelines. The LA Division's Policy can be revised by the Advisory Board if needed.

Budgeted funds were allocated for annual website registration, Membership, Non-Rail and for subsidizing of coffee and donuts costs incurred for future events.

Vic Cavalli will update the budget based upon this evenings discussion and provide a copy to James Keena for the Paymasters records.

Membership

No new member joined in for the month of February. New members should be reminded of the NMRA discounts both at local hobby shops if you as for it and with online retailers.

Communication

Kevin Spady got in touch with Dan Moran and has set up a place holder for the Division's new website in conjunction with the PSR's. Kevin Spady is studying the manual on how to structure the website and what we want it to do. The current website is lacking and outdated. Looking at 2 to 3 months to get a draft basic structure up and running. Vic Cavalli stated that lets do it once and let's do it right.

Hobby Shop flyers on hold until the website is up. Nick Lisica said that he can still put flyers with the correct site name. The flyer is formatted to hold business card in a stand. Kevin Spady mentioned that the LA Division website link will most likely change when we switch over to the new website format.

A list of hobby shops was posted on Bob Chaparro's <https://groups.io/g/ModelRailroadsofSoCalif>

Bob DeMoss stated that a new hobby shop is opening in Pomona.

Achievements & Contests

James Keena reported that he has begun a series of articles for the LA Coupler on the NMRA Achievement Program. The first article was on how to obtain your Golden Spike Certificate, pin and Award for layout construction.

The Cajon Division will hold a Show Room in conjunction with their meet on April 17th in Buena Park. James Keena will assist Mike Allee with the evaluation of any modelers seeking Merit Awards. This event will be held primarily outdoors and will comply with physical distancing and mask requirement.

Nominations & Elections

Mona Raymer stated that she will not be running for reelection as Director.

NEW BUSINESS

Fundraising Ideas

Llyod Lehrer would like to hold auction online via Zoom meeting to sell excess Division items on either eBay or HOswap. It will require an inventory, photos, description and the numbering of the items. Need to decide on long and how many items per auction. Could possibly sell about 20 items per hour in a live auction format. Llyod Lehrer is willing to host the auction.

It was mentioned that the selling items at a swap meet may be a better option.

OLD BUSINESS

Non-Profit Status

Pat Raymer reported that we are still waiting on PSR bylaw revisions and IRS Non-Profit status. Lawyer stated that the PSR is now recognized as a California Non-Profit Corporation.

Next Meeting

The next regular Advisory Board meeting will be Thursday, April 8, 2021 at 8:00 P.M. via "Zoom Application." Join meeting code: 839 6317 119 Passcode: 248175

Motion to Adjourn

Meeting Adjourned at 9:30 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted by

James L. Keena
Los Angeles Division
Chief Clerk Paymaster