



## LOS ANGELES DIVISION BUSINESS MEETING

Meeting held On-Line via Go to Meeting App

Date: July 9, 2020, 8:00 P.M.

### ATTENDING:

<u>Superintendent</u>	Vic Cavalli	<u>Clerk Paymaster/Achievement</u>	James Keena
<u>Director</u>	Mona Raymer	<u>Webmaster/Editor</u>	Tim Johnson
<u>Member Aide</u>		<u>Graphics</u>	Scott Sackett
<u>Membership Recruitment</u>	Bob DeMoss	<u>Membership Retention</u>	Vic Cavalli
<u>Non-Rails</u>	Edna Keena	<u>Assistant Non-Rails</u>	Dottie Sanders
<u>PSR Vice President</u>	Pat Raymer	<u>Facebook</u>	Kevin Spady
<u>Others Present</u>	Ron Westlund		

### Call to Order

Superintendent Vic Cavalli called the L. A. Division Advisory Board meeting to order at 7:05 P.M.

### Approval of Minutes

The meeting minutes of the June 25, 2020 were approved unanimously with no corrections.

### Financial Report

The Division currently has the following funds:

Checking	\$4,953.98
<u>Savings</u>	<u>\$5,102.98</u>
Total	\$10,056.96

Available funds were reduced due to the canceling of the Van Nuys Local 2020 Convention. We so far transferred \$4,789.20 in registrations over to the PSR 2021 Orange Blossom Special Convention as well as issuing refunds for registrations, Hobo breakfast, tours and extra fare clinics.

There has been a loss of around \$2,000 so far to our Division's fund balance, which would have been more significant if registrants had not donate their extra fare funds to help offset some of the incurred upfront costs in planning the Convention.

There are about twelve (12) individuals that have not resolved the disposition of their registrations. Refunds will be issued to these remaining individuals so that a final Convention financial report can be prepared.

### Los Angeles Coupler

Tim Johnson apologized for the delay in getting the L. A. Division Coupler out this month. He stated that he has been very busy in trying to grow his business. He will have a draft issue of the Coupler prepared by this weekend for review.

Articles and photos are need for the fall issue and are due mid-August. He needs a library of articles and content in order to prepare future editions of the Coupler.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **New Member Welcome Packet**

Due to the cancelation of the National NMRA Convention, the NMRA has begun virtual online clinics and tours utilizing Facebook, U-tube and Zoom applications. Examples are NMRA-X Facebook and YouTube, San Diego Division month Facebook and MMR Facebook pages. Perhaps a list of online links would be helpful to include in the packet.

It was suggested that a link be provided on the Los Angeles Division website to link with the Division's Facebook page. Tim Johnson stated that he would implement this.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **COVID-19 Event Standards**

Vic Cavalli reported that he was trying to work on a draft for future events. Pat Raymer stated that the Region will be addressing this in the future. Some issues are contact lists and waivers for events. It was asked if the NMRA insurance would cover the Division and James Keena reported that the NMRA insurance program is not set up to address such situations. It is only for General Liability to cover facilities that host events sponsored by an NMRA organization. They also have a separate insurance policy to cover model railroad collections.

Cajon Division is still working toward having a fall event in Buena Park in October. They are looking to expand the event to include the Board Meeting, Membership Meeting, Elections and a get together meal. The PSR Board has been holding virtual meetings.

Bob DeMoss reported that he sent a letter to the Great Train Show informing them that we would not be attending the Pomona Fairplex event. The Great Train Show responded back stating that the event has been formally canceled.

James Keena reported that Jeff Smith of RailMaster Hobbies indicated that he is still planning on hosting the Los Angeles Area Prototype Modelers Meet on Saturday, October 3, 2020. The event will be at the same church in Bellflower provided that the County would allow the gathering.

At this time physical distancing and face masks would be required. RailMaster Hobbies is the main sponsor of the event with the L. A. Division being a co-sponsored for NMRA insurance purposes.

The South Coast Botanical Gardens Los Angeles Division Frosty Fright Modular Meet is still tentatively planned for the weekend of December 5 & 6, 2020. Scott Sackett received an email from the Gardens that they would wait until mid-August to determine if they would open the meeting area at the Gardens for our event. The Gardens is approaching this very cautiously and therefore, if the event were held that masks and physical distancing would be required. This would require larger separation between modular layouts and limit the number of layouts that could be accommodated within the hall area.

Scott Sackett surveyed some of the various modular layout clubs and there is some interest in attending. Ron Westlund would contact the G-Scale live steam and outdoor garden railroad group to find out how they feel. Kevin Spady reported that On30 Group would not attend due to the health

concerns of its members.

It was determine that are September meeting would be our go/no go date as to whether to move forward in planning the Frosty Freight for the first weekend in December.

### **Storage Unit for Division Supplies**

Vic Cavalli will continue to research possible locations for storage of L. A. Division supplies that are currently kept as various members' homes. The ongoing cost of a storage unit is a major issue.

This item was table for further discussion by the Advisory Board.

### **Los Angeles Division On-Line Present**

An administrator needs to be chosen and the application needs to be purchased and installed on a computer. The administrator can assign others to host events on the Zoom App. Kevin Spady and Scott Sackett both volunteered to be co-administrators. They will do further research as to annual cost, ease of use and which available features would be best suited for the Division. Once a program is decided upon, monthly invites with access codes would need to be sent out to the membership.

Kevin and Scott will report back as to which application they recommend to purchase to utilize for the Los Angeles Division on-line presence.

### **Buddy System**

Vic Cavalli stated that a pilot program chair needs to take charge of the program. Mona Raymer stated that her article in the upcoming Coupler is an outreach to members asking them to participate. It was pointed out that many of the Advisory Board members are already severing in multiple capacities for the L. A. Division as well as the Region. More volunteers are needed to spread the responsibilities, which would be more efficient in accomplishing goals.

Kevin Spady said that a Survey Monkey could be sent out to membership asking them if they want to participate. This could be part of the Division's on-line presents as well and would need to start small at first before expanding. It was mentioned that the Region needs to be more supportive.

### **Next Meeting**

The next regular meeting will be Thursday, August 13, 2020 at 8:00 P.M. via "Go to Meeting App."

### **Motion to Adjourn**

Meeting Adjourned at 9:33 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted by

James L. Keena  
Los Angeles Division  
Chief Clerk Paymaster