



# NAUSET MODEL RAILROAD CLUB

**Date:** September 7, 2018

**Place:** Train Room at Hilltop Plaza

**Call to Order:** 7:30 p.m.

**By:** Jay Stradal

**# of people present:** 20

**Secretary's Report:** Jay Stradal (Jeanne Karaim was traveling) Bob Cortez taking tonight's Minutes

Jay read a correction to the June, 2018 Minutes, as follows:

**CORRECTION: CLUB MEMBER INFORMATION: on page 2**  
**Jim Seaboldt was celebrating his 55<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary (not 50<sup>th</sup>).**

**A MOTION was made and seconded to approve the June Minutes as amended.**

**VOTE: The Motion passed.**

**Treasurer's Report:** Jay Stradal for Peter Adam

The report for June, July and August 2018 was accepted as read and Filed.

**New Members:** No new members

**Visitors:** No visitors who stayed for the meeting

**Recognitions:** Jay recognized the following:

- Big thanks to members for their support during the Chatham Fly-in and the summer Open Houses (more later)
- Also, thanks to Jeff Bassett and all those who helped with the Barnstable County Fair exhibit (\$300 honorarium).
- Special thanks to Peter Adam and Jim Seaboldt for doing much of the clean-up following a small flood in the Train Room last month. Fortunately, this wasn't serious, because very little was sitting directly on the cement floor! Gentle reminder!!
- Club received an additional \$100 donation from "Tales of Cape Cod," a non-profit organization in Barnstable where Jay presented in August a talk about the history of railroads on Cape Cod.

## **CLUB MEMBER INFORMATION:**

- a. Jeanne/Mike Karaim had a death in the family...a card was sent expressing the Club's sincere condolences.



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- b. Rick Mazza is recuperating from double knee-replacement surgery. He plans to be at the Train Room in November.
- c. Mike Geylin had an accident with a ladder on Labor Day and is recuperating in Boston. He hopes to be back in a few weeks.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS:

### 1. ACTIVITIES: Ross Hall/Brian Carney

- a. So far 14 members are signed up for the **September 29th Lunch Train**--reservations **MUST** be in, with payment, by next Friday evening (9/14).
- b. **Next Operating Sessions** on HO and O layouts: **Thursday, September 20.**
- c. **Next Meeting:** Friday, September 14.

### 2. FINANCE: Jay Stradal (Joe Cardito: out-of-town): The committee met by phone on September 4th to discuss the following:

- a. **Ticket pricing for the Big E bus (January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019);**
  - i. In our February 2018 Business Meeting, a Motion was approved for NMRC to host a bus to the 2019 "Big E" show contingent upon the cost of the bus and the admission price being essentially the same as 2018
  - ii. Since then we've learned that our costs for 2019 show admission (\$12) and the bus (\$1,250) are the same as last year, except children aged 15 (not 16) and under get free admission
  - iii. With the \$40 ticket price per adult, we will need approximately 45 adult-tickets to break-even (offset slightly by any children tickets sold at \$20)
  - iv. By voting "Yes" it is understood that if enough riders do not sign-up for the Club-sponsored bus, a deficit may be accrued by the Club

**MOTION: A motion was made and seconded to proceed as described above with ticket pricing unchanged from last year, but with the children age change for discount set at 15 and under.**

**VOTE: The motion passed.**

- b. **A Lease has been signed** with Landlord. Monthly payment is now \$500/month from the previous \$484.33/month (includes Train Room and Annex).
- c. The committee expects to have a **draft Budget** for review by the Executive Committee in September. Presentation to the full membership is scheduled for the October 5<sup>th</sup> Business Meeting.



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- d. In **2017** the Club authorized the printing of, and received 2,500 Open House rack cards at a cost of \$250. However, an invoice was never sent and thus payment was not made. The error was discovered in August of this year (see New Business) and an invoice was submitted. Jay has authorized payment and wanted all members to know about the situation and its subsequent resolution.
  - e. **Next Committee Meeting:** Joe Cardito will notify the Finance Committee Members of the next meeting.
3. **MARKETING:** John Charlton and Mike Geylin (out-of-town)
- a. Members affirmed that there would be **NO Columbus Day Open House**. The event several years ago did not meet attendance expectations.
  - b. **Publicity preparation for the Holiday Open House** events are under way.
  - c. We have printed 2,500 updates of the **yellow Visitor Brochures** at a cost of \$454 (up to \$500 was authorized).
  - d. **Next meeting:** September 21, 2018.
4. **MEMBERSHIP:** Dick Boberg and Mike Leen
- a. **Membership Status:** There are **90 members** (77 Regular and 13 Supporting)
  - b. **Mentoring program** under way, the two new members are being contacted by their mentors.
  - c. **Next Meeting:** October 5, 2018.
5. **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:** Jay Stradal
- a. Committee did not meet over the summer as there was no immediate business to address.
  - b. **Next Executive Committee meeting:** Wednesday, **September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018** at 7 p.m. in the Train Room. (There may be other meetings in the interim if needed.)

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

1. **Club Cookout October 14, 2018, Sunday:** Jim Seaboldt/Rich Houghtaling):
  - a. **Location:** Chatham VFW (near Chatham Airport): has ample indoor/outdoor facilities



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- b. **Menu planning** under way, and assignments have been made to members who are attending.
2. **Summer Open House Results:** Jay reviewed some of the highlights and successes of what proved to be a successful summer. Visitors totaled 881, total Sales and Donations amounted to \$1,722 and Donations per Visitor averaged \$1.22. With these trends we would have exceeded 2017 results if there had been the usual 9 events over the two months; however, the Club was closed on July 4 and there were only 8 events in 2018.

## NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Reprint Open House Rack Cards:** Jay reported that the 2,500 rack cards printed in 2017 are nearly gone, and more will be needed to help promote the Open House events at the end of this year and next summer. He proposed that members authorize a re-print. (The \$250 cost would be in addition to the \$250 owed for the 2017 reprint as mentioned in the Finance Committee report above.)

**MOTION: It was moved and seconded that the Club authorize the printing of 2,500 rack cards at a cost of \$250.**

**VOTE: The motion passed.**

2. **Nominating Committee:** As required by the NMRC Bylaws, a Nominating Committee was appointed for the 2018 election of officers and directors. The committee comprises Brian Carney, Bill Secor and Bob Cortez. The committee will make a preliminary report at the October Business Meeting, and will present its recommended slate of nominees at the November Business Meeting. The election will be held at the December Business Meeting.
3. **Outreach to *Community Connections, Inc.*:** Deb Morris from *the Community Connections, Inc* in South Yarmouth visited the Club during an Open House in August. *Community Connections, Inc* was founded in 1985 and provides opportunities for people with disabilities. Ms. Morris is interested in having some of her Clients work together to build a train layout (possibly O gauge, 4x8) and asked if any members of the Club would be interested in working with her and her group. Dick Boberg and Jerry Fink volunteered to assist her, and Jay provided contact information to them.
4. **Time-Saver Use at Holiday Open House:** Jim Seaboldt raised the question about the use of the Time Saver module during the Holiday Open House events. Its current location in the Club Library is isolated and not very conducive to viewing/operating by visitors. Brian Carney suggested that it be placed on top of the workbench across from the S-gauge layout, but the workbench height would be too high for most young visitors to use it. Rich Houghtaling suggested removing the workbench altogether and putting the module on its own legs in that space. Members agreed to postpone further discussion to the October meeting.



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## GOOD OF THE CLUB:

1. **Used Train Equipment Donation Procedure:** Jay reminded members of the procedure that is in place for donated items:
  - First: Donations must be cataloged by Jack Kuchera, Peter Adam or Stan Snow.
  - Second: Items must be offered to the Layout Groups for possible Club use.
  - Third: Remaining items are made available for sale to members, and then to the general public.
2. **Internet Sales:** It was noted that at least three high-end items have been sitting around for a long time and might best be sold on the Internet. A discussion about Internet sales and pricing will be held during the October Business Meeting.
3. **“Tips ‘n Troubles:** Jack Kuchera was on vacation. Max Sarazin discussed his experiences with layout designs and drawings.

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

**Next Business Meeting will be October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 7:30 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted:

Bob Cortez, Secretary *pro tem*