



LOS ANGELES DIVISION BUSINESS MEETING

Meeting held On-Line via Zoom Application

Date: October 8, 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>	
<u>Member Aide</u>		<u>Graphics</u>	Scott Sackett
<u>Membership Recruitment</u>		<u>Membership Retention</u>	Vic Cavalli
<u>Non-Rails</u>	Edna Keena	<u>Assistant Non-Rails</u>	
<u>PSR Vice President</u>	Pat Raymer	<u>Facebook</u>	Kevin Spady
<u>Others Present</u>	Mike O'Brian	<u>Nick Lisica</u>	

Call to Order

Superintendent Vic Cavalli called the L. A. Division Advisory Board meeting to order at 8:00 P.M.

Approval of Minutes

The meeting minutes of August 13, 2020 and September 1, 2020 were both approved unanimously.

Financial Report

The Division currently has the following funds:

Checking	\$5,871.62
<u>Savings</u>	<u>\$5,103.07</u>
Total	\$10,974.69

Vic Cavalli requested a recap of expenses for the next meeting regarding costs incurred for the Great Train Show, Membership Banquet and Convention in 2020 in order to prepare a proposed 2021 budget for future Division events. The Division needs to be fiscally responsible and may need to reduce the subsidizing of certain events.

Pat Raymer stated that progress on forming a Tax Exempt 501-C-3 for the PSR and Division was slowed down due COVID-19 restrictions. It is now moving forward again. With the PSR working on becoming a Tax Exempt, the fiscal reporting may become more structured.

Mona Raymer reported that the PSR would provide a pass-through from the NMRA again to the Divisions. The NMRA pass-through would be utilized to pay for the Division's Zoom Account.

NEW BUSINESS

Los Angeles Coupler

Nick Lisica is now assisting Tim Johnson to proof read Coupler articles. In the future submit articles to both Tim Johnson and Nick Lisica. Current Fall Edition is nearing completion, just need to substitute a report. Articles for the Winter Editions of the Coupler and PSR Dispatch are due November 1, 2020.

PSR BI-LAWS REVISIONS

A PSR Board Meeting is planned to be held via the Zoom Application on Sunday, October 25, 2020 where revisions to the PSR Bi-Laws will be addressed and adopted.

OLD BUSINESS

Division Virtual Media

Kevin Spady will prepare an article for the Coupler on how to access Los Angeles Division virtual meetings utilizing the Zoom Application. Plans are on having show & tell sessions, how to do clinics and layout tours. Advisory Board meeting are open to all member as well.

Since San Diego Zoom meetings are held on second Saturday of each month, it was agreed to schedule Los Angeles Division events for the third Saturdays of each month at 1:00 P.M. Advertisement of the Zoom meeting would be by Regional Calendar, Mail Chimp, Website, Coupler and Facebook Page.

It was suggested that one of local physical model railroad clubs or modular club layouts in the Los Angeles Division be showcased each month. This would allow at least 12 different clubs to be featured each year. List of clubs are on the Division's website.

Those that are interested in attending a virtual meeting would have to submit an RSVP in order to receive the sign-on code and password for the Zoom meeting for security reasons.

It was suggested that some items be use as a random drawing prize to encourage members to participate in the Division's Zoom meetings. It was pointed out that physical prizes would also incurred mailing cost to ship the items to the winners. An alternative was suggested that gift certificates to local hobby shops be awarded instead, that way it is just a first class postage envelope to mail the certificates to the winners.

Members Interest Survey

Kevin Spady summarized the results of the member interest survey. Some of the comments received were:

1. Need a list of Division officer contacts on the webpage.
2. Recognition list of those that received Golden Spikes for Layout construction.
3. List of Los Angeles Division MMR's.
4. List of those that have received Achievement Awards.
5. Coupler link to Coupler archives, issue is that many of the links on the website are broken.
6. Need to advertise events better. Events page on has two ongoing events.

Kevin Spady will put together an article summarizing the survey result for the Coupler.

Many of the issues were related to the Division website. It was mentioned that Tim Johnson seems to be overloaded with his current new work demands and Coupler responsibilities and is not able to devote the necessary time to update the website.

It was suggested that a call for volunteers be sent out via Mail Chimp for someone with web design experience to either assist Tim Johnson or take over the updating the Division's website.

Buddy System Program

Mike O'Brien volunteered to oversee the Los Angeles Division Program for a one-year trial basis. He will refer new members to other members with similar interests.

COVID-19 Event Standards

The finalized COVID-19 Event Standards were approved unanimously.

Cajon Division is still working toward having a fall event in Buena Park on October 24, 2020. Masks and social distancing requirements will be in effect. Their Boulder City, NV event in November has been canceled.

Both the Los Angeles Area Prototype Modelers Meet on Saturday, October 3, 2020 and South Coast Botanical Gardens Los Angeles Division Frosty Fright Modular Meet has been canceled.

Storage Unit for Division Supplies

The least expense storage units found are located in the areas of Santa Fe Springs, Norwalk and Cerritos. Rental costs range from at least \$65.00 monthly or more. Given the situation of the Division spending more than receiving in income, the cost of renting a storage unit would be unsustainable.

James Keena ask members to review and update the list of Division items that they have stored at their homes that was sent out last month. Members indicated that they will inventory the items they have in their homes.

Next Meeting

The next regular meeting will be Thursday, November 12, 2020 at 8:00 P.M. via "Zoom Application." Join meeting code: 839 6317 119 Passcode: 248175

Motion to Adjourn

Meeting Adjourned at 9:45 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted by

James L. Keena
Los Angeles Division
Chief Clerk Paymaster