



LOS ANGELES DIVISION BUSINESS MEETING

Meeting held On-Line via Zoom Application

Date: May 13, 2021, 8:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

Superintendent Vic Cavalli called the L. A. Division Advisory Board meeting to order at 8:07 P.M.

ROLL CALL/QUORUM

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The meeting minutes of April 8, 2021 were approved unanimously.

FINANCIAL

Financial Report

The Division currently has the following funds:

Checking	\$9,444.58
Savings	\$5,103.16
Total	\$14,547.74

See attached proposed vs. actual budget report for May.

MEMBERSHIP

Events

The Great Train Show has listed the Pomona Fair Grounds as a potential show date on August 21 & 22, 2021. A check of the Fairplex website indicates that County COVID-19 restriction will not allow the show to be held. The Great Train show is looking into holding possible future shows at either Del Mar or Costa Mesa. Several members indicated that they would be willing to man a NMRA booth at a future event. Bob DeMoss will be asked to contact the Great Train Show director for NMRA table space at future events.

Buddy Program

Mike O'Brien is preparing a welcome letter to send out to the four (4) new members that joined the LA Division. Lloyd Lehrer sent a welcome email to the new members to the LA Division.

COMMUNICATION

LA Coupler

Vic Cavalli congratulated Nick Lisica on preparing a very good edition of the LA Coupler. Nick Lisica thanked all the article contributors that made assembling the LA Coupler easier.

Nick Lisica sent Lloyd Lehrer a PDF format copy of the LA Coupler to print 3 copies for mailing out to those that do not have email addresses.

Nick Lisica stated that Jeff Smith is back to working part-time and would be able to print future editions of the LA Coupler again.

The LA Coupler is published in a text-based format. To publish in Mail Chimp, the format needs to be converted into a PDF, which automatically disables email and website links. Live links would need to be reinserted manually into the document.

Show and Tell Zoom Meet

Kevin Spady indicated that he has been very busy at work. It would be helpful if there was another moderator for the Zoom Show-&-Tell meetings. It was suggested that we maybe consider just doing an open-ended Chat Hour on the 1st Thursday of each month. Moderator would limit speakers to 5-minutes. Vic Cavalli indicated that he would prepare a flyer for sending out via Mail Chimp for announcing the 1st LA Division Chat Hour to be held on June 3rd at 7:00 P.M. Possible name suggested was the LA Division Sand House Chat.

Website

Kevin Spady shared status of development of the new LA Division website. He is still building the website with content and links. The new website is still a work in progress and still subject to revisions based upon received comments from the Advisory Board.

It was suggested that tab/link be provide for the PCR in additional to the PSR Regional and Divisional tabs since many of their events are within reasonable driving distance of the LA Division.

Kevin Spady indicated that he would like to create a photo page on the website and he would like to begin by asking that up to three (3) photos with captions be submitted by each Advisory Board member.

ACHIEVEMENTS/CONTESTS

James Keena reminded everyone to begin preparing their entries for the Show Room at the PSR 2021 Orange Blossom Special Convention in Irvine.

NEW BUSINESS

Non-Profit Status

Pat Raymer reported that the Lawyer stated that the PSR is now recognized as a California Non-Profit 501c3 Corporation. James Keena reported that the Region is working on obtaining a financial system for the all Divisions to unitize to comply with IRS reporting requirements.

Llyod Lehrer mentioned that Tech Soup has a Non-Profit Cloud-Based Quick Books system for up to 5 users.

Pat Raymer also stated that the Region will also prepare a uniform receipt for 501c3 Non-Profit tax deduction purposes for all Divisions to use.

Amazon Smiles

Since the Region has 501c3 Nonprofit status, the Region has signed up for Amazon Smiles donations. Pat Raymer stated that most likely the Region will distribute any donations received from Amazon Smiles five (5) ways, with 20% going to the Region along with 20% of the donation going to each of the separate Divisions. The Region would receive ½ of 1% donation for every dollar designated to the Region through Amazon Smiles.

OLD BUSINESS

By-Laws Update

Vic Cavalli said that he will still review the LA Division Bi-Laws and recommend revisions to bring them into conformance with the Region's 501c3 Nonprofit Bi-Laws.

PSR Secretary

With Dave Irick retiring as Secretary of the PSR, Nick Lisica has agreed to become the new Secretary for the Pacific Southwest Region.

Next Meeting

The 1st LA Division Sand House Chat is tentatively scheduled to be held on Thursday, June 3, 2021 at 7:00 P.M.

The next regular Advisory Board meeting will be Thursday, June 10, 2021 at 8:00 P.M. via "Zoom Application." Join meeting code: 839 6317 119 Passcode: 248175

Motion to Adjourn

Meeting Adjourned at 9:27 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted by

James L. Keena
Los Angeles Division
Chief Clerk Paymaster