

DIVISION 8 MEETING MINUTES 1/19/08

The meeting was called to order by President Byer at 10:35 AM at Papa Ben's Train Store.

Secretary's Report

No reading of the minutes of the last meeting. President Byer asked if there were any corrections or revisions, and there were none. A motion was made to accept the minutes. It was seconded and approved by all.

Treasurer's Report

President Byer gave the report for Peter Bryan Division Treasurer who was absent. There has been some expenses incurred with the upcoming convention. Byer said that the treasury has about \$4,300.00 in the account.

New Business

Division 8 Table

President Byer said that the Division needs to man a table at the Greater Houston Train Show on 2/16/08. Byer asked for volunteers to take a time slot between 10:30 AM - 5:00 PM.

Division 8 Clinic

President Byer asked the club foremen to inform their respective club membership of the upcoming event and encourage the membership to attend. The next clinic is scheduled for 2/23/08.

Operating Session

Peter Bryan has scheduled a novice operator's session at his home layout on 3/1/08. President Byer said that there has only been one operator to sign up. He encouraged the clubs to inform their membership that additional operators were welcomed to attend.

LSR Convention

The convention is scheduled for 6/18 - 22/2008. There is a registration form on the LSR website for Division 8. President Byer said that the registration is \$88.00. After 5/1/08 the fee goes up \$10.00 more. Other events during the convention will be a visit to Zube Park and a bar-b-que dinner that is included with the registration fee. Other events will be prototype tours to the Metro bus barns.

Division 8 Long Leaf Tour

The Division is hosting a tour of the Long Leaf sawmill on 3/8/08. Members will need to provide their own transportation. Lunch will be provided by the Division. The cost of the tour will be \$6.00. The tour starts 9:00 AM. There will be a tours of the blacksmith, engine shops, mill and power plant. Along with the tour there will be demonstrations. If any of the Division members want to ride the speeders, that will be extra fare. Presently there are 5 people signed up to attend.

Division 8 Director

The election for a Division 8 Director will be in 2008. President Byer said that the membership will be receiving ballots later this year in the Marker Lamp. He encouraged anyone interested in running for the position to enter their name as a candidate.

Future Clinics

President Byer solicited ideas from the clubs for future clinics. Some ideas were floated around such as building structures or a clinic on soldering or DCC programming. Ideas were solicited on how we would let the membership know about the clinic. Putting fliers in the hobby shops or advertising in the Waybill were possible ideas. It was suggested to send a post card to the membership a few weeks before the clinic before the clinic to let everyone know. There was some discussion on how to attract members in the outlying areas from the Greater Houston area who don't attend these clinics because of the traveling distance.

New Meeting Location

President Byer asked for suggestions of a new location for the Division meetings. There have some suggestions that the location be moved to a more convenient location for the clubs that attend. It was suggested that the Division meet at a local restaurant.

Division By-Laws

President Byer said that the By-laws need to be corrected concerning the wording "dues". Ray said that he would work with Jim Long on that issue.

Greater Houston Train Show

The San Jacinto Model Railroad Club will donate a table for the Division at the train show. President Byer encouraged the local clubs to help, by having someone from their club work at the table to promote Division 8.

Youth Membership

The N Crowd Model RR Club has nominated Carl Syneth, a youth for membership in the Division 8. President Byer asked if there were any objections. There were none, so Ray said that he forward the nominee's name to the Region youth director Tom Browning. Ray and Tracey Mitchell are working on nominating two more youth nominees for 2009. Ray solicited that the local clubs nominate youth from their clubs. President Byer said that he is looking to expand the scope of the youth contest. Robert Eaton suggested that the clubs promote the Golden Spike Award among their youth members. Ray encouraged the local clubs to talk to parents and their children at train shows about getting into the hobby.

NMRA Membership

Ron Burns asked if all of the clubs in the Division are 100% NMRA. President Byer said that not all clubs are fully 100%. He said that the clubs should become 100% so that they can use the NMRA insurance at their events. The only requirement is that there is a fee of \$60.00 to register to get the certificate for the liability coverage.

Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting is 2/23/08 at 10:30AM at Papa Ben's. Following the meeting there will a clinic on a modeling project. There was a motion made and seconded to adjourn. It was approved by all and adjourned at 11:45 AM.

Respectively Submitted By
Ronnie Pendleton Division 8 Secretary