

Minutes of the October 11, 2008 Annual Meeting
Texas Gulf Division of the Lone Star Region of the National Model Railroad Association, Inc.

Meeting called to order at 12: 14 by the President Ray Byer.

Ray expressed a big Thank You for the food and for all the members that came out.

Election - Ray then turned over the meeting to the Nomination Committee of Tracy Mitchell and Byron Spampinato.

Tracy announces the slate of officers. President Ray Byer; Vice President Jim Long; Treasurer Peter Bryan; Secretary Tracy Mitchell. Tracy called for any other nominations from the floor. Motion was brought forth that the nominations were closed. Seconded. Motion passed. The officers were elected by affirmation.

Ronnie Pendleton Secretary turned over the writing of the minutes to the new secretary Tracy.

Ray also pointed out that the Bylaws call for two year terms with the President serving two consecutive terms with this being his final term. All other officers can run as long as they wish.

Minutes - Motion to accept the Minutes for the last meeting as posted on the Division Web site by Byron S. Seconded by Ronnie P. Approved.

Future Div 8 events – City of Alvin is building a railfan pavilion adjacent to the newly restored depot. The pavilion is similar to what Flatonia has. The pavilion and picnic grounds should be completed by Feb or Mar of 09. It was discussed that a Div 8 event could be held there in April. It was suggested that event be a Chili cook off with members bringing their home made chili to have the members taste and select a winner. This was discussed and the consensus seems to like the idea. It was also noted that Alvin has about 40 trains a day that pass by the depot.

The annual business meeting and picnic will be held again in the fall at Zube Park.

Membership update – Ray pointed out that Div 8 needs to know any changes in the member's address. Tom Marsh pointed out that the way to update addresses is still to notify the National headquarters in Chattanooga. The Div 8 roster we have comes from the National through the LSR region and is passed down to the division.

Past Convention update – Convention chair Loren Neufeld made a financial report that Iron Horse 8 convention made \$3195 in profit for the Div 8. \$1350 of that sum came from the shirt sale and raffle. No final amount was reported on what the LSR would receive from the convention. That will be given to the LSR board at the midyear board meeting.

Future Convention – It was reported that Bob Barnett would chair the next convention Div 8 would host. The year will either be 2011 or 2012 depending if a wild card city will take the convention for 2011. If no wildcard is announced at the midyear board meeting then Div 8 will host the LSR in 2011.

The rotation is Dallas/ Ft Worth 2009, San Antonio 2010, Wild Card City 2011, Houston 2012. Ray pointed out that Beaumont was being considered for the 2011 convention until hurricane Ike killed any chance of that.

Bob Barnett stated that he is looking into a couple of hotels to host the convention and will make contact with them soon once when we know which year is confirmed.

New Business – Bob Werre brought up the fact that several years ago, Div 8 purchased from the National NMRA, a series of VHS tapes to be loaned out to the membership. Bob wanted to know what became of them. No one was sure of what did become of them including the librarian at the time, Byron S. It was decided that a notice be added to the Waybill inquiring what happened to them.

Henry Tolley also pointed out that several years ago Ben Pearlman converted several 8 mm home movies to 16 mm format and wanted to know about them.

Waybill – The deadline for the upcoming Waybill is Saturday Oct 18. Send anything to Tom Marsh by then.

Ray Byer again wished to thank the members that brought out the food. He also thanked HALS for hosting the picnic.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:53 so we could ride trains.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronnie Pendleton, Past Secretary and Tracy Mitchell, Secretary