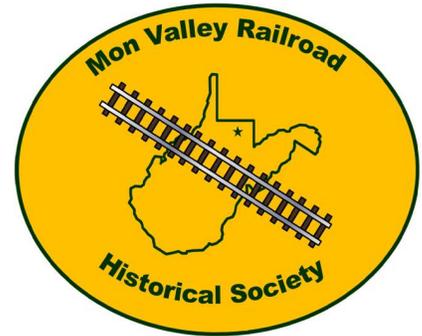


TRAIN OF THOUGHT

MON VALLEY RAILROAD HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

JANUARY 2016



EDITORS NOTE

Okay, it's officially Winter, the first "Big" Snow storm is upon us as I write this message. But this is the time of year for us to work on the layouts to make them better for us and for our visitors. The Board of Directors has met (January 14, 2016) and set some goals mostly dealing with improving the scenery on our main layout. We all have noticed places where it looks "Not quite Finished" as it were. We have three (3) months until the Spring Open House on the weekend of April 2 & 3, 2016. We will need every member we can get to improve the looks of our layouts for our devoted fans. I call them "fans" because many come back to see us every chance they get.

Our main layout runs beautifully, trains running to and fro, picking up freight and taking it to its next destination. Sure there are a few places where track needs some work, mostly due to the changing temperature & humidity of our basement home. Those track issues can be and will be corrected. What the public sees are the graceful hills, trees, streams, people and other scenery items that remind them of West Virginia. Let's make our layouts shine!

Happy Training,

Rich Henderson, Editor

Minutes of the Business Meeting January 7, 2016

Meeting called to order at 7:30pm by President, Frank Benders with four (4) officers & eleven (11) members present. Minutes of the December 2015 meeting were printed in the newsletter. Motion to accept the minutes by Rich Henderson, Second by Mike Hohn, Approved.

Treasurer's Report: Rich Henderson gave the financial report in the absence of Treasurer, Keith DeVault. All bills are paid. We are still in the Black, Approved.

Committee Reports:

Modules: Mike Hohn has bought the Brick paper for the Rowlesburg engine house and has found windows that will fit the structure.

Main Layout: Rich made some trees and will install them. Gary is working on electrical connections so that the main layout can be run even when he is not there to be the dispatcher. Frank Benders and Bill Hudak are also working on some of the wiring.

Publicity: Rich reported that the facebook Promo ad cost \$7.00. We went from 541 posts to 1470 for the Holiday Open House and totaled 2,011 post hits.

SCHEDULE of EVENTS

**February 4, 2016
Business Meeting**

**March 3, 2016
Business Meeting**

**March 26, 2016
OP Session
9am til 2pm**

**April 2 & 3, 2016
Spring Open House**

**April 7, 2016
Business Meeting**

**May 5, 2016
Business Meeting**



Minutes continued from Page 1

The page “Likes” went from 276 to 290 during that week. By December 28 we were at 297 page likes.

Ad cars: Renewals - 14 of the 17 boxcar advertisers have renewed. There are still three unpaid - Tanner’s Alley, Masman Jewelers and Mileground Dry Cleaners. It was noted that Marty Knouse, who owns Mileground Dry Cleaners, is also member and usually pays his Boxcar ad when he pays his membership dues.

Donations: We received a check for \$100 from Clark E. McKee. That is a Silver Donation and the Certificate, Thank you letter & receipt have been made and will be sent out in the next week or two. Rich will take the info to Things Remembered to have the Brass name plate made for the wood plaque.

Old Business: Dave Edwards will continue to work on the door and Rich will touch up the signage in the Spring. The Holiday Open House went off without a hitch, everyone enjoyed our layouts. A lot of the donated model RR stuff was purchased by visitors. The three Chinese auction items were all picked up that day. Our New Years day Operating Session was fun for all. We had no visiting operators that day but the trains ran on time and the layout preformed wonderfully. The new “Turn off the Lights” sign is up. Anyone who has items on loan to the Society should fill out a form, they are in the new mail bins near the donation caboose. Return it and Rich will update our list. Remember membership dues are now due. Regular - \$60, Regular/Family - \$70, Associate - \$50, College Student - \$40 and Youth is \$30. You need to pay as soon as possible. Late Fee and

other penalties kick in on March 31, 2016.

The annual trip to Timonium, MD train Show is on Saturday, February 6, 2016, weather permitting. Train Show by the Kanawha Valley RR Association is at Coonskin Park near Charleston on Feb. 20 & 21, 2016, might be a good show to go to if weather permits.

New Business: Board of Directors meeting has been set for Thursday, January 14, 2016 at 7:00pm at the Society clubhouse. BOD members will make a budget for members to vote on and come up with some goals for this year. Rich noted that we achieved all our 2015 goals by July of 2015!

Jim Kubanick donated \$50 to the Modular Layout Transportation Fund. Thanks Jim! Remember anyone can give a donation to the fund. Tom Kirby stated that if anyone comes across a Drafting Table, the drawers are the perfect size for HO cars and locos to be stored in. Be one the lookout guys.

Motion to adjourn by Rich Henderson, Second by Bill Hudak. Approved

Meeting adjourned at 8:05pm
Respectfully,

Lou Lemelle, Secretary MVRHRS



**Board of Directors Meeting
January 14, 2016
Mon Valley Railroad
Historical Society, Inc.**

Meeting called to order at 7:05pm by Frank Benders, President, with Gary Deavers, Vice President, Keith DeVault, Treasurer, Lou Lemelle, Secretary & Rich Henderson, Membership Director

present.

We first tackled the Budget for the 2016 year. Keith DeVault brought the financial figures for the past (2015) year. Rich brought an updates proposal from last year. Costs for electricity went up the most. We also spent more on miscellaneous items. Income for the past year was down slightly, including dues, Boxcar ads, and for public events. The proposed Budget for fiscal year 2016 is attached. After reviewing all the figures the BOD unanimously approved the Budget and will send it on to the full membership for approval.

Next, the BOD reviewed a short list of goals for the 2016 year.

The first that everyone agreed on was that we need to look at the main layout scenery. The video camera car that Gregory Malnikoff uses showed several places where our scenery needs work. It was agreed to ask Gregory to bring his camera car to the Society and to run it slowly around the layout. When we find a place that needs work, we will list it and get a crew of members going on fixing things. It may just be adding some weeds, bushes, grass or a few trees, some people, etc. We agreed that many of these small touch ups of scenery will go a long way in making our layout more visually pleasing to members & visitors.

Second, we turned to how to raise more money. Keith brought up the idea of allowing visitors to “Run a Train” on Open House days. The cost would be \$5.00 and an experienced member would have to be with the “visiting” engineer. This was brought up a few years ago and we never approved it, but now is the time. This item must be voted on by the membership.

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BOD Minutes Continued from Page 2

Third, President, Frank Benders stated that we need to have more Operating "OP" sessions. Members need to learn how to run our railroad. We looked at the calendar and have set two (2) OP sessions for the first half of the year. The first will be on Saturday, March 26, 2016, the second on June 11, 2016. Each will run from 9:00am til 2:00pm. These will be open to all members. More OP sessions will be scheduled later in the year.

Lastly, we reviewed the nominating procedure. Two (2) years ago we got a late start and it caused problems for Keith. Every year he must send a report to the West Virginia Secretary of States office updating our list of Officers/BOD members. This is to keep our Non Profit corporation status and business license up to date. The Nominating committee must be formed at the March business meeting, it then reports at the April business meeting and nominations for Officers are closed. Lou Lemelle, our Secretary then has seven (7) days to prepare and send out the ballots, members have twenty (20) days to return them. The ballots are opened, counted and certified at the May business meeting. Keith then sends the information to the Secretary of States office in early June. Also, in June we must have a Board of Directors (BOD) meeting where the old officers turn over materials to the new officers and bring the new people up to speed on procedures and business matters. We scheduled that meeting for Saturday, June 11, 2016 at 2:00pm right after the OP session.

Motion to adjourn a 7:45pm

Lou Lemelle, Secretary MVRRHHS

**Mon Valley Railroad
Historical Society
OFFICERS**

President

Frank Benders
304-296-2318
fbenders@comcast.net

Vice President

Gary Deavers
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Secretary

Lou Lemelle
304-598-0140

Treasurer

Keith DeVault
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Membership

Rich Henderson
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Our Society Website:

<http://www.MVRRC.org>

Our Society Yahoo site:

[http://groups.yahoo.com/
group/MVRRHS/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/MVRRHS/)

***Our Society
facebook page:***

[http://www.facebook.com/
MVRRHS](http://www.facebook.com/MVRRHS)

Proposed Budget for the
MON VALLEY RAILROAD HISTORICAL SOCIETY Inc.
 128 Pleasant Street
 Morgantown, WV 26505

For the Year January 1, 2016 thru December 31, 2016

EXPENSES

Rent	\$ 3,180.00
Mon Power	\$ 920.00
Division Two Ad	\$ 15.00
Liability Insurance	\$ 205.00
Sec of State Fee	\$ 25.00
Publicity Expenses	\$ 250.00
Misc. Expenses	<u>\$ 200.00</u>
Total Expenses	\$ 4,795.00

Expenses Breakdown

Rent - \$265 X 12 = \$3,180.00
Mon Power - \$66 X 12 = \$920.00
Division Two Ad - \$15.00
Liability Insurance - \$205.00
Sec of State Fee - \$25.00
Publicity Expense - \$250.00 - Half of \$500.00
Misc. Expenses - \$200.00

POSSIBLE INCOME

Dues	\$ 1,580.00
Ad cars	\$ 525.00
Public Events	\$ 1,500.00
Carry Over Monies from 2015	<u>\$ 2,439.01</u>
Total Income	\$ 6,044.01

Possible Income Breakdown

Dues - Regular 20 X \$60 = \$1,200
Reg/Family - 3 X \$70 = \$210
Associate - 1 X \$50 = \$50
College Student - 3 X \$40 = \$120
Youth - 0 X 30 = \$0

Total Income	\$ 6,044.01
Less Total Expenses	<u>\$ 4,795.00</u>
Possible Carry Over monies for 2016	\$ 1,249.01

Ad cars - 15 X \$35 = \$525

Public Events - 5 X \$300 = \$1,500.00

**PLEASE Bring this copy of the Budget with you to the February Business Meeting
 on Thursday, February 4, 2016**

The Mon Valley Railroad Historical Society, Inc.
 Is an IRS approved 501(c)(3) Not for Profit Educational Organization