Rappahannock Model Railroaders, Inc Business Meeting Agenda December 7, 2017

President Jim Kerley called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM at the Fraternal Order of the Eagles Lodge.

**Roll Call** A Quorum was verified. We also had one proxy. Rich Boteler Tom Medsker Thorny Chilton Tom Messeder Bill Craig Mike Morra Bob David Mike Morris Michael Fields Rich Murnane Linda Garrett Gene Nordgren Kathy Harris Mike Riabouchinsky Bob Hunter Dave Rogers James Karns Phil Shaw Jim Kerley Steve Shaw Mark McDonagh Bill Trueman Walt McIntyre Randy Vaughn John McKeown Bob Wilcox

**Minutes**

The November Minutes were read and approved.

**Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Michael Fields stated that we have $32,148.45 in the savings and $3,529.96 in the checking account.

**Secretary's Report**

Secretary Linda Garrett had nothing to report.

**President's Repor**t

President Jim Kerley stated that the 2017 MTH Railking Train Set has not arrived. It is expected in Columbia, Maryland in the next few days. Once here he will drive up to their headquarters and retrieve the set. Several members asked what will we say to everyone at the show? That it is coming and the winner will be called and hopefully it will be here to deliver soon. It was suggested that a picture of the winner and set be sent to the Free Lance Star for their Community Section announcing our raffle results.

**Unfinished Business**

Bill Trueman stated that our table top display at the Fredericksburg Antique and Clock Shop's Grand Opening on Friday, November on the 4th & 5th was a good show. Lots of people visited the shops and liked our layout. Many of the 60 Vendors or Dealers at the Antique and Clock Mall were pleased and made sure to thank us. Bill thanked everyone who came to set up, run trains, and take down on Monday morning. He said it was nice to be able to use the loading dock and their elevator. The owner of the shop had rented the space we used the week before but wouldn't let them set up until after that Monday morning. Shirley Garrett was able to sell over $50.00+ Raffle Tickets over the two days.

First Vice President Dave Rogers said that our set up of the modules over the weekend of November 11th -12th at the Spotsylvania Towne Center Mall near Dick's Sporting Goods was a great event. He thanked everyone that came out Saturday morning to set up, run trains both days and then helped with the takedown Sunday evening. We had many positive comments from the mall shoppers and Shirley and the Raffle group sold lots of tickets.

Nomination's Chairman Mike Riabouchinsky announced the results of our elections for the Board of Directors serving two year terms. Mike did state, "That he wished more members ran for the offices and hopefully next year that will happen during our 2018 elections." 22 Ballots were received and our new Officers are:

First Vice President Bill Trueman

Treasurer, Steve Shaw

Secretary Kathy Harris

Director At Large Linda Garrett

Membership Chairman Second Vice President Phil Shaw said all of our hats have been sold and our new members were able to order shirts from MVP in a short period of time. Information on the cost and company is being collected for obtaining our Logo and having it copyrighted. Once we have everything needed we can complete the process and own our RMR Logo. Phil is waiting on the two price lists from both MVP and Jonathan and Sons for ordering our shirts and anything else members want to purchase with our logo imprint. Our two newest members have received their New Member Packets. It was suggested that on the next Roster, members need to include their Cell Phone numbers.

Location Search Chairman Bill Trueman stated that he had nothing to report at this time.

Historian Chairman Bob Wilcox announced that he has posted some great pictures on our web site from Antique Show and from the Spotsylvania Mall. He has continued to compile our written reports into the binder but is still missing a few reports. If you promised to write up one of our events, please complete and send it to Bob.

Raffle 2017 Treasurer Michael Fields reported that to date we have sold over $937.00 of Raffle Tickets. The cost of the train set and tickets have been paid for and any money gained at the show will be a profit.

Christmas Show Chairman Steve Shaw stated that the Eagles' Lodge was easy to clean up today, Thursday, and it didn't take long to set up the tables and all the other areas. Plan to meet by 8:00AM tomorrow, Friday,to begin setting up the modules. We will need everyone's help as we may not have anyone from the Juvenile Center. Walt McIntyre has made arrangements for several Boy Scouts to help on Friday after school or Sunday afternoon. 73 tables have been sold and around $700.00 still needs to be collected from the vendors. Just the cost of the tables by the vendors will give us a $750.00 profit. All money collected at the door will also be a profit.  Steve thanked Bill Craig for a job well done with his publicity and advertisements. Everyone has seen the many newspaper ads and notices published throughout the community. Rich Boteler asked that we wait for the sign detail to return before setting up all the modules on Friday. Since we are making an L layout and inside freight yard the L will need special legs and he doesn't want them mixed in with all the other legs for the modules. The Sign teams are set for early in the morning and there isn't any problem with Fredericksburg City or in Spotsylvania County. After three weeks of waiting Steve received a call from Susan Blackburn concerning Stafford County's new ruling on sign placements and their fines if they are collected. At present they do not have a form for obtaining a permit to place signs. All signs need to be on private property and not within eight feet of the road. The fine is $100.00. A question was raised by Thorny Chilton if all the signs were really needed as most people will use their GPS systems or cell phones to find directions. After a short discussion it was decided to continue with the Sign teams as people have come to past shows after seeing our signs along the highways. Dick Merrill sent word concerning our having a test track available in O and HO gauges. He asked that he will need a member to help run the test track as Gail and Him cannot work the Club table sales and run the test track. Steve asked that all members if not running trains or working an area to walk around supervising and to watch for children trying to reach for the trains. Bob David showed the Scavenger Hunt cards to everyone and the several check off cards to identify which object was on what layout. A debate centered on who and where would the hand outs or check cards would be located. Bob had decided that there wouldn't be any prizes. After a short discussion it was finally decided that candy canes would be given out when the cards were turned in to be checked. Gene Nordgren volunteered to buy McDonald's Gift Cards for the drawing of one special winner each night. A question was asked about the predicted bad weather for Saturday and should we have a tent in front of the door to protect everyone entering? It was agreed that they would erect one of our tents outside.

Property Chairman Rich Boteler told everyone that he has replaced the toilet seat in the clubhouse and put up the new shelving to display our club trains. He stated that a squirrel was somehow trapped inside the clubhouse and caused a mess and some damage. A cleanup and minor repairs will be needed on the layout. Rich has repaired the module's blue box with new wheels and steel rods. It cost the club $60.00 to buy the steel. The remaining two boxes need to be reinforced with the steel rods after the first of the year. Total cost would be between $140.00-$160.00 to buy the needed steel rods and new wheels.

Publicity Chairman Bill Craig stated that he checked on the prices of purchasing another white 8' x 5' banner and that it would cost about $156.00 or we could buy a smaller 4' x 3' white sign for $78.00. The decision to buy another white sign would need the Board of Directors vote at a later date. He also said that Spotsylvania County's Visitor Center will let us hang a banner there plus post handouts.

Web Master James Karns asked that a group picture be taken at the show. It was decided that everyone should meet at 8:30AM Saturday morning. A concern was made by several members that their emails are not going through at times. James asked that he be contacted when that happens so he can research the problem and have it corrected.

**New Business**

2018 Calendar's Events are a blank slate according to First Vice President Dave Rogers as it will be up to our new First Vice President Bill Trueman to plan the events. The only thing scheduled is the Dinner in January and then possibly the Kid's Expo in the beginning of February and The Greenberg Train Show at the end of February. Bill will need to see if we are able to take part in both shows. Members when asked agreed to being at both shows and would like to set up the modules each time.

President Jim Kerley announced that we have secured the Salem Church Library's meeting room for each month in 2018 but not for the months of January or March. Several members wondered if the new Great American Buffet in Central Park has a meeting area that would hold all of us with many of our members meeting earlier for dinner. Jim or Bill Trueman will check on that possibility or find another meeting place. Emails will be sent out to all members.

Our Holiday Dinner is set for January 13th. at the Fredericksburg Country Club. Happy Hour is from 5:00PM -6:00PM with dinner being served at 6:00PM. There will be three choices and the dinners should be around $23.00 like last year. More information will be sent out with your needed RSVP after the first of the year. We will have a weather date if needed.

**Announcements "Members Time"**

Gene Nordgren stated that he is willing to be the Christmas Show Chairman for our 2018 show if Steve Shaw is unable to continue.

Karen James relayed that she just spoke with a friend who works for Stafford County and that she is in charge of the men assigned to collect any roadway signs over the weekend. Her friend has agreed to let our signs stay and they will not be pulled.

Mike Riabouchinsky told of his trip out west to Las Vegas and to Prescott and Scottsdale, Arizona in late November to visit his son. While in Scottsdale, he visited the 2017 Blue Comet Award Winners and toured their train facilities. The Paradise & Pacific Railroad Club are housed in a large model train building at the huge McCormick - Stillmam Railroad Park. Mike was able to meet their President Bob Smith and take a tour of their large layouts.

Walt McIntyre wanted everyone to remember December 7th and what happened at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. He also reminded us that on Saturday would be the Army vs. Navy Football Game.

**50 /50 Drawing**

The 50 / 50 drawing was not held.

**Adjournment**

President Jim Kerley adjourned the meeting at 8:19 PM.

Minutes submitted by \_\_ Linda Garrett Secretary.

Minutes approved by Jim Kerley President.