



THE '0-4-0'



FOUNDED IN 1952

SEPTEMBER 2009 — FIRST SECTION

NASHUA VALLEY RAILROAD ASSOCIATION, INC.
2 SHAKER ROAD SUITE E-205
SHIRLEY, MA 01464

www.nvrra.com www.nvrra.org www.nvrra.net

TIMETABLE

SUNDAY 7:00 PM TO 9:30 PM
THURSDAY 7:00 PM TO 9:30 PM
SATURDAY 7:00 PM TO 9:30 PM

Association Officers

Jay Berry, President
Larry Roberts, Vice-President
Pete D'Olimpio, Treasurer
Bob Johnson, Secretary
Scott Lukas, Corresponding Secretary

Association Board of Directors

Jim Fenner, Chairman, 2nd Year Member
Scott Lukas, 2nd Year Member
Don Carlton, 1st Year Member
Matt Paquette, 1st Year Member
Mal Houck, 1 Year Member
Bryan Miller, Alternate

CURRENT PUBLICATIONS VERSIONS

By-Laws	1 October 2009	updated Article 9, Publication Department
Rules and Regulations	18 July 2009	
House Rules	18 July 2009	
Policies	18 July 2009	
Standards	18 July 2009	

CHANGES IN THE NEWSLETTER

As your Association Secretary, I have been producing an interim "0-4-0" since Jim Dumas, our last Editor, resigned from the Club soon after we moved to Shirley and nobody else stepped forward. I've managed to get something out every month, but often at the very last minute [current edition as a case in point] and have had difficulties getting hard copy versions to our members who do not have e-mail access. At the September meeting of the Board, Mal Houck was appointed to the position of Publications Editor just a few minutes after the General Membership ratified a By-Law change that allows the Association's Newsletter name to be changed from the "0-4-0". The simultaneous changes of Editor and potentially its name create new opportunities for the Club. I am happy to turn over the Association's Newsletter to Mal and I wish him the very best of success in his efforts. I will also say to the General Membership that the position of Editor of any publication is both easier and more interesting if the Editor receives input from other members instead of having to author everything as well. Good luck Mal!

CALENDAR

Thursday 9/3 7:00 PM work meeting
 Saturday 9/5 7:00 PM work meeting
 Sunday 9/6 7:00 PM work meeting
 Thursday 9/10 7:00 PM work meeting
 Saturday 9/12 7:00 PM work meeting
 Sunday 9/13 7:00 PM pre-meeting BOD meeting
 7:15 PM monthly business meeting
 8:30 PM monthly BOD meeting
 Thursday 9/17 7:00 PM work meeting
 Saturday 9/19 7:00 PM work meeting
 Sunday 9/20 7:00 PM work meeting
 Thursday 9/24 7:00 PM work meeting
 Saturday 9/26 7:00 PM work meeting
 Sunday 9/27 7:00 PM work meeting
 Thursday 10/1 7:00 PM work meeting
 Saturday 10/3 7:00 PM work meeting
 Sunday 10/4 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM Pepperell Siding show at Varnum Brook School in Pepperell
 7:00 PM pre-meeting BOD meeting
 7:15 PM monthly business meeting
 8:30 PM monthly BOD meeting
 Thursday 10/8 7:00 PM work meeting
 Saturday 10/10 7:00 PM work meeting
 Sunday 10/11 7:00 PM work meeting
 Thursday 10/15 7:00 PM work meeting
 Saturday 10/17 7:00 PM work meeting
 Sunday 10/18 7:00 PM work meeting
 Thursday 10/22 7:00 PM work meeting
 Saturday 10/24 7:00 PM work meeting
 Sunday 10/25 7:00 PM work meeting
 Thursday 10/29 7:00 PM work meeting
 Saturday 10/31 7:00 PM work meeting
 Sunday 11/1 7:00 PM pre-meeting BOD meeting
 7:15 PM monthly business meeting
 8:30 PM monthly BOD meeting

MINUTES OF THE 13 SEPTEMBER 2009 MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETING OF THE NASHUA VALLEY RAILROAD ASSOCIATION

Meeting opened at 1917 EDT by Vice-President Larry Roberts with 14 members (1 Life, 13 Active, 0 Alumni, and 0 Junior) and 0 applicants present.

REPORTS

Secretary Bob Johnson read the minutes of the August business meeting. Mal Houck moved and Paul Diamond seconded to accept the minutes of the August meeting as read – approved unanimously.

Bob Johnson then reported for Treasurer Pete D’Olimpio as follows:

Profit and Loss Statement August 1-31, 2009:

Revenue:

FY10 dues	\$ 50.00
eBay/consignment	\$ 10.00
Soda proceeds	\$ 50.00
Ice cream	\$ 10.00
Interest income: CDs	\$ 8.16
Savings	<u>\$ 1.90</u>
Total Revenue	\$ 130.06

Expenses:	
Rent	\$ 968.23
Website hosting	\$ 9.99
Electric bill	\$ 106.58
Gas	\$ <u>.00</u>
Total Expenses	<u>\$1,084.80</u>
Profit/Loss	\$ (954.74)
Ending cash balances:	
Ending balances 8/31/2009	
Checking	\$ 455.84
Savings	\$ 8,280.27
3 CD's	<u>\$3,899.56</u>
Total ending balances	\$12,635.67
less CD's	\$3,899.56
Less emergency fund	<u>\$ 500.00</u>
Available cash	\$ 8,236.11

Other items to note as follows:

Electric bill is for a 3-month period

Prior month report for July contained an error – neglected to deduct the \$500.00 emergency fund from the available cash balance – corrected

still need to do the IRS filing for a non-profit corporation by October 15th – all information needed is on hand received \$10 from sale of flex track by Shepaug RR Co. – no other eBay items sold as yet – plan to put items on eBay in late September/early October timeframe – P.S. anyone want to buy “125+ Fulgurex switches?”

Pete is very concerned that dues collections will be significantly under budget this year

3 members have gone to Alumni and 1 has resigned due to unemployment

Several members have not paid any 2009-2010 dues yet

If current trends hold, we will be short \$1,914.00 on dues for this year

Latest estimate for collectible dues for this year is \$2,694.97

if we have no further membership changes, no Railfair profits, no layout expenditures, and no eBay sales, our funds will cover overhead through this fiscal year with less than \$1,000 left at the end of the year

there is very little left to sell on eBay to help alleviate the financial situation

Chris Detsikas moved and Paul Diamond seconded to accept the Treasurer's report as given – approved unanimously.

No eBay activity to report but members were invited to donate and/or solicit donations of items to sell on eBay to raise funds for the Club.

Layout Chairman Scott Lukas reported that the CVT ties on hand will cover about two-thirds of the layout and most has yet to be installed. There are experiments with modules for the upper deck. Wiring drops have been put in for the Deerfield yard and there is discussion about how quickly to try to extend the layout to Gardner at this time in light of the impact on other layout activities. Lots of progress on the helix and there is now a need for additional turnouts, particularly for the East Deerfield yard. Wiring and soldering need to be done with plenty of testing as the wiring progresses to ensure there are no issues. Testing with a variety of locomotives is also being done to ensure trackwork and wiring are fully operational before moving to another section. Scenery consultation is currently desired for the river areas at both ends of East Deerfield.

DCC Chairman Scott Lukas reported no changes in the decoder count of 292 and there was significant inventory of salmon colored forms available and no change noted (but apparently one is listing).

BOD Chairman Jim Fenner had Bob Johnson summarize the minutes of the August BOD meetings.

Bob Johnson reported for Membership Chairman Pete D'Olimpio that there were no outstanding applications.

Show Chairman Don Carlton reported that the letters to dealers will go out in the next two weeks. We do not appear to have a conflict with the Greenberg show and the dealer letters will note that.

OLD BUSINESS:

Second reading of the proposed By-Law change regarding removing the name of the “0-4-0” from the By-Laws.

Bob Johnson moved and Jim Fenner seconded to approve the second reading – approved unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion regarding the October meeting resulted in leaving the meeting as scheduled.

GOOD & WELFARE:

Dining Car stewards for the next 3 months are as follows:

4 October	Scott Lukas
	Jim Fenner
1 November	Bob Johnson
	Bryan Miller
6 December	Peter Elwyn
	David Jordan

Scott Lukas reported that the roof leak repair was redone and it is believed to be repaired successfully now. John Muise reported that he distributed 50 flyers at the Concord show and distributed another 25 flyers at a show today.

Scott Lukas presented information on proposed club banners which will be donated – two 8-foot by 16 inches and two 4-foot by 16 inches.

There was discussion regarding whether or not we should try to display at the Bedford Boomers show.

There was discussion about putting photos on the back side of show flyers along with the layout diagram, at least for local shows where we may be able to get some new members. We also discussed running a free raffle for something like a decoder or a nice car to obtain contact information for possible new members. We will try to hold one or two Membership Open House sessions to recruit new members – October 24th 3 PM to 10 PM [we'll bring in pizza for the NVRRA members] and perhaps following the NMRA Hub Division and/or Springfield shows. We will have projects underway and limited test operations so that prospective members can see the full range of club activities.

Adjournment Officer Chris Detsikas performed his duties at 2011 EDT and Paul Diamond seconded the motion – approved by unanimous standing vote.

Minutes recorded by Bob Johnson, Secretary

MINUTES OF THE 13 SEPTEMBER 2009 MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NASHUA VALLEY RAILROAD ASSOCIATION

Meeting convened at 2020 EDT with the following present:

Jim Fenner	second-year member
Scott Lukas	second-year member and Association Corresponding Secretary
Don Carlton	first-year member
Matt Paquette	first-year member
Mal Houck	one-year member
Bryan Miller	alternate
Bob Johnson	Association Secretary

The following were absent:
none

Mal Houck reported that the corporate legal issue regarding the move of our corporate headquarters is resolved. The Pepperell Siding show was discussed next, with Scott Lukas taking his switching module, but Scott cannot set up before 6 PM on Saturday – he can work on it Sunday morning which is when the setup will be done. Jim Fenner can help with transport and installation of the module. Scott will be set up to let people operate as a switching test or just free switching.

The Board discussed the proposed ‘membership open house’ to focus on what activities we want to be able to support. We can help people with their unbuilt kits or uninstalled decoders. We can also let them watch us or even try some of our layout building activities. Flyers will also be distributed to all Phoenix Park tenants.

The Board appointed Mal Houck as Publications Editor. Secretary Bob Johnson will forward text and current masthead material to Mal for his use.

The Board discussed the Railfair letter to be send out to dealers in the next couple of weeks. We will note that we are not in conflict with the published dates for the Greenberg or other major shows. The mailing will include a letter, the flyer, and a table application. The Board plans to do an “envelope stuffing party” on Sunday 20 September.

There was a discussion regarding turntables for the layout. The 90-foot turntables we have on hand will not handle a B&M R1d 4-8-2, although a 105-foot turntable would work. Mal Houck noted that the Walthers indexing turntables don't work that well but the AAA turntables work very well, although they are also quite expensive. Suggest selling the 130-foot turntable and both of the 90-foot turntables we have and buy a good AAA 105-foot turntable for East Fitchburg. The Board will research the available turntables for pricing, length, and layout placement, and discuss at the next Board meeting. Research will also include current eBay pricing for the Walthers turntables we have on hand.

Meeting adjourned at 2113 EDT

Minutes recorded by Bob Johnson, Secretary

NOTICE TO MEMBERS REGARDING ACCESS TO THE ASSOCIATION'S QUARTERS

Our By-Laws provide that new members do not have unescorted access to the Association's Quarters [an access button to unlock the layout room door] until they have been Active Senior members for 6 months. This means that our newer members can only get in to work on the layout when someone else is present to unlock the door and remain there with the newly-elected member(s). There reportedly have been a few instances when our newer members have shown up at the Club, only to find out that nobody else was coming to unlock the door, resulting in a wasted (and sometimes long-distance) trip for the newer member(s). Although summer vacations are now over, there still is a risk that this will happen again increases, especially for Thursday evenings. If you do not have an access button to unlock the door yet, it's a good idea to send out a broadcast e-mail to the General Membership and check for a positive response from one or more members before driving to the Club.