

Minutes of the NRHS Advisory Council

West Chester, OH

April 6, 2013

(Approved June 29,2013)

Scott Andes – Advisory Council Chair Pro Tempore, presiding member. Call to order at 8:03AM.

Roll Call

The sign-in sheet was passed around to all National Representatives, members and guests. See Appendix A.

Letters to the Secretary:

Alternate, North Star Chapter – John Goodman

Alternate, North Texas Chapter – Skip Waters

Alternate, Tacoma Chapter – Bert L. “Bud” Thompson.

Approval of the Fall 2012 Meeting Minutes

Motion:

Del Kittendorf moved to approve the minutes of the Fall 2012 Advisory Council Meeting. Pat Molloy second. Passed by voice vote.

Report from the Chair Pro Tempore

Scott Andes gave a short report reviewing the role of the Council. He also noted the two committees formed at the Fall meeting, Bylaws and Remote Conferencing, will provide information during this meeting.

Report from the Board of Directors

Al Weber provided a report on his work on the Investment Committee and answered some questions regarding the RailCamp insurance situation and the reason for the cancellation of RailCamp 2013.

President Greg Molloy answered questions on the 2012 financial statements and reasons for the projected loss for the year. The reasons included a loss at the 2012 convention and the cost involved in the new election process. The 2013 budget is still in progress and the Board of Directors will be working on this task at their meeting. Greg also noted that the current dues are not in line with the expenses the dues cover. He covered the NRHS cash-flow for 2013 and beyond.

Discussion continued on where and how the audited and approved financial reports are distributed to the members. The reports are available on the admin.nrhs.com website.

A question was brought forward if the NRHS would handle all dues processing online and submit dues money to the chapters. It is being investigated by the NRHS for future consideration. There are plenty of technological and political issues to overcome before implements this system of dues collection.

Pat Molloy encouraged the Board to look at electronic publishing of the NRHS Bulletin and the NRHS News as a way to save money.

Report from the National Office

Kristen Olszewski reported that the last set of chapter membership renewal spreadsheets for the 2013 renewal season will be sent on April 30th. In addition, the 2014 chapter update spreadsheets will be sent around April 15th for all chapters to review and make changes for the 2014 renewal process. Chapters are being asked to return this information within six weeks. The 2014 renewal notices will be mailed out in September which is one month earlier than past notices.

Jon Baake asked how the error that was on the 2013 renewal notices for chapter donations will not reoccur for 2014. Kristen noted that each printing layer will be proofed.

Del Kittendorf questioned if the Atlanta Chapter can get an accounting of their members' donations to the NRHS since the chapter experienced a 35% reduction in donations. Greg asked Kristen to follow-up on this request. Wes Ross noted that the chapter EBC should have the information on donations since that all the accounting is routed through the EBC.

Carl Jensen requested the amount of donations for RailCamp based on the targeted mailing. This information was not available at this meeting.

Bylaws Revisions

NRHS General Counsel John Fiorilla reviewed the meeting schedule of the Advisory Council as noted in the newly revised Bylaws. The Advisory Council must meet three times a year including one meeting which must be held at the National Convention. The Council may meet more often if called by the NRHS Secretary and upon motion of the Board of Directors.

John went on to review the changes that were approved at the Winter 2013 Board of Directors' meeting. He highlighted the four sections added to Article VIII that gives the Advisory Council the ability to elect a Chair Pro Tempore, an Advisory Council Secretary Pro Tempore, Council Officers and Committees. Elections of AC Officers are conducted every two years, on even numbered years, in person, at the Fall AC Meeting. The changes that were made were based on input from the Advisory Council Bylaws Committee.

Video/Audio Conferences

Discussion was brought forward on the pros and cons of holding video/audio conferences to encourage meeting participation.

Carl Jensen asked that this topic stay on the agenda for the Summer 2013 Advisory Council Meeting. Scott Andes requested that anyone with information on this topic to forward it to him.

Bill Bain, Global Director, is also pushing the use of this type of conferencing because of the cost of travel.

Jon Baake would like to see a list of National Representatives for all chapters and who attends the meetings. He would like to encourage more active participation in the Council meetings.

Ed Graham discussed the use of Yahoo Groups as a way to communicate and disseminate information.

Information is also available on the NRHS admin site admin.nrhs.com. There is an area for the

Advisory Council information. Any posting is in a public area and should be appropriate for public posting. The National Office is able to send an eblast to a distribution list to notify Council members of new postings.

Jon Baake also encouraged the use of a Yahoo Group that is moderated. He found that this works very well in other organizations.

Del Kittendorf moderates Yahoo Groups and noted that the NRHS moderator would need access to membership information to control the group. Del would also like to take names to continue work on the video/audio conference topic.

Upcoming Conferences

Next Advisory Council meeting will be held in Bloomington, MN on June 27 – 30, 2013 followed by the Advisory Council meeting at the National Convention in Alaska.

Motion:

Del Kittendorf moved and John Simonton seconded to hold the Advisory Council meeting in Bloomington. Passed by voice vote.

John Goodman distributed information to the Council on the Summer 2013 Advisory Council Meeting plans.

Jon Baake requested on how to create a better agenda where the Council can give information to the Board to act upon.

Motion:

Jim Pahrís moved and Hugh Harris second to hold an Advisory Council meeting in conjunction with the Fall Conference in Claymont, De. Passed by voice vote.

Bob Bitzer is seeking the help from chapters to plan future conferences. He would appreciate the help to make the conferences successful.

Greg Molloy reported that there are proposals for 2014 conferences and 2015 conferences that will be discussed at the Board meeting.

Scott Andes discussed how the agenda is set. All items should be sent to Scott and he will work them into the agenda. Additional agenda items can be made at any time.

Carl Jensen also requested more time for future meetings. There was also discussion on the sequence of the Advisory Council and Board of Directors' meetings so information can flow between the two groups efficiently. There may be a need to hold two sessions for each group.

Scott Andes introduced Skip Waters to speak to the group. He is seeking guidance on hosting a convention in 2015 located in New Orleans. He outlined his ideas for the convention and possible activities.

Becky Gerstung recommended that the Board accept the proposal from Skip Waters.

Motion:

Jim Pahrís moved and Carl Jensen second that the Advisory Council recommend the acceptance of the proposal and the Board work on the policy issues for this convention. Passed by voice vote.

Selection of Chair Pro Tempore

Motion:

Jim Pahriss moved and Tony White second to select Scott Andes as Chair Pro Tempore. Scott accepted the nomination. Passed by voice vote.

Announcements

David Flinn, Global Director, is looking for members of the Advisory Council to join him on the Development Committee. The committee is investigating fundraising and generating new members.

Dave Baniewicz commented on the negative aspects of video conferencing by not having face time with each other. He is also looking for suggestions on convention merchandise.

Motion:

Pat Molloy moved, and Carl Jensen second to adjourn. Approved by voice vote at 10:29am EDT.

Respectfully Submitted:

Robert Ernst

NRHS Assistant Secretary

Appendix A

Chapters Represented at the Advisory Council Meeting

West Chester, OH

April 6, 2013

Chapter	Representative
Atlanta Chapter, NRHS	Delmar F. Kittendorf, Jr.
Blackhawk Chapter, NRHS	Robert J. Murray, Jr.
Bergan-Rockland Chapter, NRHS	Donald Winters
Central Coast Chapter, NRHS	Edward F. Graham
Central New York Chapter, NRHS	Paul Yonge
Cincinnati Chapter, NRHS	William Scott Andes
Collis P. Huntington Chapter, NRHS	Maurice Hartz
Cumberland Valley Chapter, NRHS	David Watts
George L. Carter Chapter, NRHS	Jim Pahriss
Gulf Curve Chapter, NRHS	Harla Lazur
Heart Of Dixie Chapter, NRHS	Martin P. Owen
Inland Empire Chapter, NRHS	John P. Simanton
Kentucky Central Chapter, NRHS	Shirley Ross
Lackawanna & Wyoming Valley Chapter, NRHS	Timothy E. O'Malley
Lancaster Chapter, NRHS	Fred Kurtz
Leatherstocking Chapter, NRHS	Mark Lazur
Niagra Frontier Chapter, NRHS	Rebecca Gerstung
North Alabama Chapter, NRHS	G. Patrick Molloy
North Florida Chapter, NRHS	Marjorie Williams Fiorilla
North Texas Chapter, NRHS	Skip Waters (Alternate)
Northstar Chapter, NRHS	John Goodman (Alternate)
Old Dominion Chapter, NRHS	Sanford C. Williamson
Old Smoky Chapter, NRHS	Robert Freeman
Philadelphia Chapter, NRHS	Peter M. Senin, Jr.
Potomac Chapter, NRHS	Rick Davidson

Rappahannock Chapter, NRHS	Ted Barker
Roanoke Chapter, NRHS	Carl S. Jensen
Saint Louis Chapter, NRHS	Dr. Albert Howe
Ulster & Delaware Chapter, NRHS	Donald F. Bishop, II
Utica & Mohawk Valley Chapter, NRHS	Mark Lazur
Washington DC Chapter, NRHS	Jon H. Baake
West Jersey Chapter, NRHS	Frederick Ciocciola
Western Connecticut Chapter, NRHS	Tony White
Western Maryland Chapter, NRHS	Frank B. Fowler, Jr.
Winchester Chapter, NRHS	Berton Robinson

Officers, Directors, Members, Staff Members and Guests

Advisory Council Meeting Attendance

West Chester, OH

April 6, 2013

Officers and Directors Present

Gregory P. Molloy	NRHS President
David Flinn	Global Director
Robert Ernst	Global Director / Assistant Secretary
Bill Bain	Global Director
Steve Barry	Global Director
Joe Maloney	District 3 / Secretary
Bob Bitzer	District 3 / Treasurer
Larry Dyer	District 4
Wes Ross	District 5
Don Maxwell	District 5
Al Weber	District 6
Duane Durr	District 6

Claude Doane District 7

Jeff Smith District A

Staff, Members and Guests Present

John K. Fiorilla NRHS General Council

Kristen Olszewski Fernley & Fernley NRHS Account Director

David Baniewicz NRHS Emblem Sales

Mike Brock Cincinnati Chapter, NRHS

Hugh R. Harris Hoosierland Chapter, NRHS

Alma Harris Hoosierland Chapter, NRHS

Wilfred F. Waters III North Texas Chapter, NRHS

Roberta Ballard Western Connecticut Chapter, NRHS