

Draft Minutes of the NRHS Advisory Council

Best Western Country Cupboard Inn Conference center

Lewisburg, PA

Saturday April 26, 2014 – 8:00 AM EDT

The Spring Meeting of the NRHS Advisory Council was called to order at 8:02 AM by National Vice-President Joe Maloney acting in the absence of Advisory Council Chair Pro Tempore Scott Andes.

Roll Call (Appendix A)

Alternate National Representatives: Robera Ballard, represented the Western Conn. Chapter, and Ellen Pinsky is now the National Representative for the Iowa Chapter.

The agenda was discussed. Jim Pahrns requested that the strategic plan be added to the agenda. This was agreed upon and added to Old Business as Item E.

Joe Maloney noted that at least a dozen National Directors were in attendance to represent the National Board. He also asked for a round of applause for Mark Eyer for the excellent job he and the sponsoring Chapters did in conducting the excursion enjoyed by everyone on Friday.

Bob Ernst reported that he has not received any comments or suggestions regarding the posted minutes of the Winter Conference in St. Louis. Del Kittendorf made the motion to accept and John Simanton seconded. The motion was approved.

Report of the Chair Pro Tempore: Scott Andes, attending via teleconference, thanked everyone for attending and, having nothing to report returned the microphone to Joe Maloney.

Report from the National Board of Directors: President Gregg Molloy did not have anything from the Board to report.

Report from National Office: The Annual Membership Meeting proxies have been mailed, preparation of Election ballots is underway and, in response to a question, it was noted that 39 grant applications have been received.

Old Business

a) Advisory Council Secretary: Appointment required in accordance with changes to the By-Laws approved by the Board at the January meeting. A request for volunteers was made. There being no response to the request, Fred Kurtz, who originally proposed the changes, volunteered to take on the task.

b) Chapter Newsletter Exchange; Jeff Smith said that there are several issues with posting newsletters online. Maintaining such a website can be cumbersome and would be time

consuming. He suggested instead that a blog be initiated. There was discussion of the pros and cons. Greg Molloy stated that several ideas presented could have possible legal issues and would have to be reviewed by council. Fred Kurtz suggested that each Chapter ensure that a link to their site is on the National website and that they could also post links to other chapters on their websites. Returned to Jeff Smith for further consideration.

c) Chapter National Representative job description - John Baake, Fred Kurtz agreed to work on this but no one offered to chair the committee. Del Kittendorf agreed to coordinate this discussion.

d) John Baake discussion points;

#1. Communications: email addresses - This is no longer an issue. Distribution of the *NRHS Telegraph*. Suggested that it be automatically be sent to all members we have email addresses for. It was noted that this would create a huge volume of email. The *NRHS Telegraph* is available on the admin website. It was suggested that an information block be added to the news noting what is available and how to access it. John Baake made a motion to make available in the News in each issue an information block containing this information. Jim Pahriss seconded. Joe Maloney suggested an amendment to the motion that Bob Ernst prepare the block. This was agreed. The motion was accepted as amended.

#2. Publish summary financial information in the *NRHS News* and put the audit report in the *NRHS Telegraph*. A discussion arose concerning the permissible activities by 501(c)3 organizations. There is a lot of misunderstanding concerning this. The National 501(c)3 status does not extend to the chapters. Each should have their own designation. Back to the financial information question; Such information is not yet available. John Baake motioned to pass to the Board that summary financial information be published in the news and that annual audit reports be published in the *NRHS Telegraph*. John Simanton seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.

#3. Encourage chapters/members to become more engaged with National. Enhanced personal contact from National may improve this. Establish a committee to make recommendations on ways to improve the response. It was noted that the Transactional and Relations committees are already dealing with these issues. After much discussion John withdrew this idea.

#4. Provide report on the health of each chapter at Board and AC meetings. Regional Directors would be responsible for this. Wes Ross noted that the Relations Committee has proposals addressing this issue which will be discussed at the Board meeting later in the day. John motioned that this be passed as is to the Board for discussion. Motion was passed.

#5. Conduct a survey of members and chapters that have left over the last three years to determine reasons for leaving. This is now in the National Strategic Plan.

#6. Establish a new class of organization membership for museums and RR attractions. This is also now in the Strategic Plan.

e) Strategic Plan: Jim Pahriss and Joe Carter requested that the Strategic Plan be presented to the

AC for possible comment and suggestions. Gary Reinbolt commented; Plan states goals and methods to accomplish. One member commented that the plan does not include the chapters in any way. How does National garner the resources to survive? National cannot afford to recruit at the National level. Chapters are the best avenue for attracting new members. It positions the organization to better assist the chapters. First goal is to re-acquire those members who have left. Get internal house in order. Get meaningful financial information to base future actions on. Leon Duminiak motioned that “Chapters” be added to the mission statement. Second by John Goodman. Passed by voice vote.

John Baake asked if the function of Bob Bitzer’s committee were included in the Strategic Plan. Bob replied that his committee is focused on accomplishing the goals stated in the Plan.

Leon Duminiak motioned change the word “industry” to “community”. Second by John Goodman. Passed by voice vote.

New Business

a. Convention Policy; There is a need for a complete report to be prepared for the June meeting. This matter was tabled.

b) S. Wasby Bulletin Discussion Points. Greg noted that it was actually a letter to the Editor. Richard Shulby noted that a copy was sent to him with a specific request that it be discussed by the Advisory Council. There was a discussion of the letter. Jeff Smith will work on implementing the suggestions made by Mr. Wasby.

Open Microphone

Al Baker; Is there a minimum # of members below which the organization would cease to be viable? Gregg Molloy stated that there is point where this could happen but there is no way to put a specific number to such a point. Under the current way of operating survivability is shaky. This is the main reason for the Strategic Plan.

A question as to how chapter information can be brought up to date. Jeff Smith stated that currently the dues database and the website are not connected. Under the new system these systems will be interconnected. This should be complete by December of 2014.

Bob Heavenrich was asked about the results of the latest audit. Greg Molloy answered the question. He is expecting a draft audit report within two weeks. We do have systemic problems within the financial system and steps are being made to correct the problem.

Carl Jensen suggested that the affiliate membership proposal be discussed at the next AC meeting.

Al Weber received several calls concerning the use of the teleconference feature. Asked the AC to consider how the society will pay for the feature.

Leon Duminiak asked about a Member-at-Large having a chapter only membership in a chapter. There are several such members who have this status. Greg Molloy stated that is legal. Several spoke in support of the situation.

John Baake asked that Advisory Council members be allowed to comment when the topic of 2015 dues implementation is discussed in the Board meeting. Greg Molloy stated that there would not be any major decisions made, just a discussion of implementation and tactics. Jeff Smith noted that he and Skip Waters planned to get together after the Board meeting to discuss and plan the online procedures. Skip did state that there would a manual renewal option.

Feedback from the AC to the Board. There was no additional discussion.

Upcoming Conferences

Summer 2014; Springdale, AR, June 12 at 8:00 PM.

Fall 2014: Nov. 13-16, Johnson City, Tn.

Winter 2015: Jan. 10-11, Roanoke, VA.

Note: The Fall and Winter conferences were approved by the BoD.

Spring 2015: April 15-19, York, PA. A joint conference with ATTRM. It was decided to hold the AC meeting on Saturday evening with a working diner that would start at 7:00 PM.

Note: At this point the audio recording stopped. The following was recorded and provided to me by Ellen Pinsky.

Announcements; None were noted.

Adjournment - Motion by John Goodman with a second by John Simonton. The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 AM.

I wish to thank Bob Ernst and Ellen Pinsky for their assistance in providing the material from which these minutes were extracted.

Respectfully submitted

Fred B. Kurtz
Advisory Council Secretary



NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES
ATTENDANCE SIGN-IN SHEET

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Chapter	#	Last Name	First Name	Present	Not Present
Alexander Chapter	152	Smith	Ted		X
Arkansas-Boston Mountains Chapter	188	Eddy	Kenneth	X	
Asheville Chapter	153	Klinger	Edward		X
Atlanta Chapter	046	Kittendorf	Delmar	X	
Augusta Chapter	095				
Baltimore Chapter	003	Shulby	Richard	X	
Bergen-Rockland Chapter	136	Winters	Donald	X	
Blackhawk Chapter	107	Murray	Robert	X	
Blue Ridge Chapter	043	Leslie	Robert	X	
Bluewater Michigan Chapter	165	Patterson	Elizabeth		X
Boston Chapter	013	Levay	Edward		X
Bradford Ohio Chapter	234				X
British Columbia Chapter	144	Sanford	Barrie		X
Bucktail Chapter	096	Bauer	Michael		X
Cape Cod Chapter	183	Scott	R.Douglas	X	
Cape Fear Railroaders	164	Johnson	Richard		X
Carolina Clinchfield Chapter	215	Ellis	W.Yancey		X



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Chapter	#	Last Name	First Name	Present	Not Present
Central Coast Chapter	097	Graham	Edward	X	
Central New York Chapter	020	Yonge	Paul		X
Central Oklahoma Chapter	111	Nantois	Bob		X
Central Pennsylvania Chapter	133	Irvin	Mark	X	
Central Texas Chapter	141	Olsen	Carl		X
Champlain Valley Chapter	068	Sander	William		X
Charleston Chapter	084	Giardino	Arthur		X
Chicago & Illinois Midland Chapter	206	Shannon	William		X
Chicago Chapter	179	Jackson	Roy		X
Cincinnati Chapter	110	Andes	William	X-PHONE	
Collis P. Huntington Chapter	048	Hartz	Maurice	X	
Colorado Midland Chapter	094	Mc Farland	Mel		X
Columbia River Chapter	197	Holloway	John		X
Conneaut Chapter	069	Brundage	Ron		X
Connecticut Eastern Chapter	208	Axelrod	Raymond		X
Connecticut Valley Chapter	012	Ballard	Roberta	X	
Cornell Chapter	161	Dickinson	Greg		X



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Chapter	#	Last Name	First Name	Present	Not Present
Cotton Belt Chapter	213	Rankin	Steve		X
Cumberland Valley Chapter	125	Watts	David	X	
Danville Junction Chapter	099	Schroeder	Richard		X
Delaware Valley Chapter	113	Duminiak	Leon	X	
Delmarva Chapter	202	Russell	Charles		X
East Carolina Chapter	067				X
East Tennessee Chapter	042	Hopkins	M.Paul		X
Florida East Coast Chapter	162				X
Fort Lauderdale Chapter	196	Diedrich	Ronald		X
George L. Carter	242	Pahris	Jim	X	
Grand Canyon Chapter	211	Wurgler	James		X
Great Plains Chapter	193	Furst	H.		X
Greensboro Chapter	145	Weber	George		X
Greenville Chapter	169				X
Gulf Coast Chapter	085	Baxter	William		X
Gulf Curve Chapter	189	Lazur	Harla	X	
Gulf Wind Chapter	128	Bishop	Lee		X



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Chapter	#	Last Name	First Name	Present	Not Present
Hagerstown Chapter	192				X
Harrisburg Chapter	045	Irvin	Mark	X	
Heart Of Dixie Chapter	060	Owen	Martin		X
Hoosierland Chapter	186	Street	Rolland		X
Horseshoe Curve Chapter	093	DeFrancesco	Joseph		X
Indianapolis Chapter	074	Johnson	Thomas		X
Inland Empire Chapter	089	Simanton	John	X	
Intermountain Chapter	055	Moss	Thomas		X
Iowa Chapter	029	Pinsky	Ellen	X	
Japan Chapter	240	Matsuo	Yoshitaka		X
Jersey Central Chapter	158	Dakelman	Mitchell		X
Kansas City Chapter	023	De Roo	John		X
Kentucky Central Chapter	194	Ross	Shirley	X	
Lackawanna & Wyoming Valley Chapter	132	O'Malley	Timothy	X	
Lake Shore Chapter	037	Grabowski	Ray		X
Lancaster Chapter	001	Kurtz	Fred	X	
Leatherstocking Chapter	167	Lazur	Mark	X	



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Chapter	#	Last Name	First Name	Present	Not Present
Lehigh Valley Chapter	016	Young	Donald		X
Long Island - Sunrise Trail	075				X
Louisville Chapter	026	Vescelus	Mike		X
Memphis & Charleston Railroad Chapter	245	Larkins	Rich		X
Memphis Chapter	050	Strong	William		X
Miami Chapter of	044	Boldrick	S.		X
Midwest Chapter	021	Kovacs	William		X
Mississippi Great Southern Chapter	108				X
Mohawk & Hudson Chapter	065	Hart	John		X
Monterey Chapter	247				X
Nashville Chapter	057	Nelms	De Loy		X
Nebraska Railroad Museum	170	Blessing	George		X
New Orleans Chapter	119	Messina	Peter		X
New York Chapter	022	Sowa	Cora	X	
Niagara Frontier Chapter	017	Gerstung	Rebecca	X	
North Florida Chapter	160	Fiorilla	Marjorie	X-PHONE	
North Jersey Chapter	010	Dakelman	Mitchell		X



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North Texas Chapter	223				X
North Western Illinois Chapter	106	Strombeck	George		X
Northstar Chapter	105	Goodman	John	X	
Old Dominion Chapter	041				X
Old North State Chapter	123	Faircloth	Ken		X
Old Pueblo Chapter	072	Brubaker	Robert		X
Old Smoky Chapter	049	Freeman	Robert	X	
Overland Chapter	127	Billings	Richard		X
Owensboro Chapter of	066	Stigall	BJ		X
Pacific Northwest Chapter	032	Baker	Al	X	
Paducah Chapter	217	Maxfield	John		X
Perryville Chapter	224	Stetina	Patrick		X
Philadelphia Chapter	004	Senin	Peter	X	
Piedmont Carolinas Chapter	129	Shulby	Richard	X	
Pocahontas Chapter	157	Mulhearn	Daniel		X
Pocono Mountains Chapter	205	Dickinson	Howard		X
Potomac Chapter	116	Davidson	Richard		X



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Chapter	#	Last Name	First Name	Present	Not Present
Pottstown & Reading Chapter	120	Sweigart	John	X	
Promontory Chapter	073				X
Rappahannock Chapter	198	Barker	Theodore		X
Raritan River Chapter	244	Durrua	Kenneth		X
Red River Valley Chapter	092				X
Rio Grande Chapter	149	Howard	Charles		X
Rivanna Chapter	134	Deily	Gerard		X
Roanoke Chapter	036	Jensen	Carl	X	
Rochester Chapter	005	Warner	Rand		X
Saint Louis Chapter	064	Gawedzinski	Ron	X	
Samuel Spencer Chapter	151	Hess	Paul		X
Scioto Valley Chapter	172	Johnson	O.Franklin		X
Shenandoah Valley Chapter	195				X
Southeast Louisiana Chapter	082	Brighters	David		X
Southern Kentucky Chapter	246	Southworth	John		X
Southern Oregon Chapter	147	Pettit	Eugene		X
Suncoast Chapter	201				X



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Susquehanna Valley Chapter	058	Jilson	Donald	X	
Tacoma Chapter	071	Chapman	William		X
Tampa Bay Chapter	118	Byers	Dave		X
Tennessee Valley Chapter	053	Miller	Louis		X
Tidewater Chapter	033	Boushell	Richard		X
Topeka Chapter	027	Grey	Kay		X
Tri-State Chapter	070				X
Twin Forks Chapter	221	Gorddard	Richard		X
Ulster & Delaware Chapter	171	Bishop	Donald	X	
United Kingdom Chapter	209	Keevil	Ronald		X
Utica & Mohawk Valley Chapter	150	Lazur	Mark	X	
Washington DC Chapter	019	Baake	Jon	X	
Watauga Valley Chapter	159	Yaple	Robert		X
West Jersey Chapter	018	Ciocciola	Frederick	X	
Western Colorado Chapter	227	Thrasher	Patrick		X
Western Connecticut Chapter	030	Ballard	Roberta	X	
Western Kentucky Chapter	178	Henderson	Wallace		X



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Western Maryland Chapter	148	Fowler	Frank	X	
Western Montana Chapter	222	Palmer	E.Macdougall		X
White Oak Chapter	219	Murdock	Wellington		X
White River Junction Chapter	225	Wittik	William		X
Wichita Chapter	031	Koehn	J.Harvey		X
Wilmington Chapter	088	Posatko	Thomas		X
Winchester Chapter	083	Robinson	Berton	X	
Winston-Salem Chapter	040	Weber	George		X
Wisconsin Chapter	025	Sherman	Bob		X
Yadkin Valley Chapter	218	Caudill	Thomas		X

Appendix A

2014 Spring Advisory Council Meeting Attendance

NRHS Officers and Board of Directors Present

Gregory P. Molloy	President
Joseph Maloney, Jr.	Vice President
William Bain	Global Director (via Conference Call)
Robert Ernst	Global Director / NRHS Secretary
Jeffery Smith	At-Large District A Director
Mia Mather	District 1 Director
Tony White	District 1 Director
Mark Eyer	District 2 Director
Harold "Smoke" Shaak	District 2 Director
Ralph Bitzer	District 3 Director
Larry Dyer	District 4 Director
Sanford Williamson	District 4 Director
G. Patrick Molloy	District 5 Director
Wes Ross	District 5 Director
Duane Durr	District 6 Director
Al Weber	District 6 Director
Wilfred "Skip" Waters	District 7 Director

Staff, Members and Guests Present

John Fiorilla	NRHS General Counsel (via Conference Call)
Kristen Olszewski	NRHS Director, Fernley & Fernley
David Baniewicz	NRHS Emblem Sales
Peggy Sweigart	NRHS Emblem Sales
Gary Reinbolt	Quicksilver Services, NRHS Fundraising Manager
Rosalee Kurtz	Member, Lancaster Chapter
Jay McFarland	Member, Gulf Curve Chapter

Sheila Dorr

Member, Philadelphia Chapter

Bob Heavenrich

NRHS Comptroller

Diane Heavenrich

Member, Washington D.C. Chapter