

Draft Advisory Council Agenda, June 3, 2018

1. Call to Order:
2. Welcome & Housekeeping:
 - A. Roll Call: Recent Changes and Alternates
Helen Shaak for Lancaster Chapter in place of Fred Kurtz
Roberta Ballard for Cape Cod Chapter in place of Ellen Scott
National Reps and others on the phone:
 - B. Directors Assigned by the President:
 - C. Agenda Review with motion for acceptance and Approval
3. Minutes from the Kansas City, MO: Distributed & Posted on 1/3/2018 with typo corrections.
Motion for and Approval
4. Report from the Chair:
5. Officer & Committee Reports.
 - A. President Al Weber's Remarks for himself and on behalf of the Board of Directors.
 - B. Vice President: Joe Maloney Film Library, Print Library, Awards, Other
 - C. NRHS Secretary: Bob Ernst
 - D Treasurer/Comptroller: Bob Bitzer/Bob Heavenrich
 - E. NRHS Fund: Wes Weis
 - F. RailCamp: Becky Gerstung/Carl Jensen
 - G. Heritage Grants: Carl Jensen
 - H. Membership Current Status: Hugh Harris
Affiliate Membership & Current Status Brochures? Jon Baake (See Attached)
 - I. Attractions List: Wes Ross
 - J. Convention Committee: John Goodman
 - K. Future Conferences: Bob Bitzer
Fall 2018, Scranton, PA, Oct. 11-13
 - L. Publications: Val Hoski, Charles Williams, Jeff Smith,
 - M. Railroad History Procedure Manual: Richard Shulby
 - N. Board Chapter Definition Committee: Jim Pahriss (See Attached)
6. Old Business
 - A.
7. New Business:
 - A. RailCamp Information Distribution (See Attached)
8. Open Microphone: Are there any Guests who would like to make comments or bring up possible business
9. Announcements:
10. Lastly:
 - A. Review report to Board, action items, etc.
 - B. Closing Housekeeping: Lunch, afternoon meetings, vetc.
11. Adjournment:

Article X Chapters

Section 1. A Chapter when formed, is an organized group of at least ten (10) individuals who pay their Society dues through the Chapter. The Chapter shall share goals and interests with the Society. A Chapter shall not be a subsidiary of the Society but may represent itself as part of the of the Society and solicit and sell Society memberships to the public. Chapters shall have the right, through representation on the Advisory Counsel, of input to the Society Board of Directors and Management and to receive certain services from the Society. Chapters shall be in compliance with these Bylaws and with any regulations or policies promulgated by the Society and duly distributed to the Chapter by the Society.

- (a) A Chapter in good standing is a chapter which annually shall have at least five (5) members who pay their Society dues through the Chapter and have remitted funds held in trust for the Society on a timely basis and complies with the Bylaws of the Society.
- (b) A Chapter not in good standing shall be a chapter that fails to remit funds held in trust on a timely basis, fails to comply with the reasonable directives of the President or other officers of the Society, and fails to maintain membership of at least five (5) members who pay their Society dues through the Chapter. Such a Chapter shall no longer have representation on the Advisory Council and may be suspended from such national services as determined by the Board of Directors.
- (c) The Charter of a Chapter not in good standing may be revoked by the Board of Directors at the Board's discretion. Reinstatement as a Chapter can be achieved if the Chapter has returned to good standing and only by a vote of the Board of Directors.

Letter, Re: Davis & Elkins College

To NRHS Executive Leadership (Mr. Al Weber, Mr. Joe Maloney, Mr. Robert Ernst, Mr. Bob Bitzer):

I am writing as the National Representative from the Washington DC Chapter, NRHS. The DCNRHS has been working with the Davis and Elkins College in Elkins, WV over several years, both with their faculty and with interns. Davis and Elkins College is a fully accredited college which offers a special program and college minor with career opportunities in Railway Heritage Tourism Management. I have attached materials from the college that fully explains the program and educational opportunity they have to offer. Their program has a close alignment with the aims and purposes of the NRHS which is to promote and preserve our railway heritage.

The college has requested permission to make their college and railway heritage program known to NRHS RailCampers by permitting them to provide the enclosed literature to RailCampers. They have been told this is prohibited based on NRHS policy that forbids the NRHS from promoting or endorsing outside organizations. I am writing to ask for a reconsideration of the policy. I am not asking for an NRHS endorsement of the Davis and Elkins College program but rather that the NRHS allow them to provide RailCampers information about their program with the understanding that the NRHS is not endorsing their program.

The Davis and Elkins program is far from being a mere "program for our young people." It is an 18-credit college curriculum that stretches over three years and includes a paid summer internship. Established at the urging of NRHS executives at the time it was created (2013), it already deploys three year-long paid interns doing critical work for NRHS chapters.

Permitting the college to promote their program is a win for both the college and the NRHS. We are always trying engage younger people in the importance of promoting and preserving our railway heritage. Providing RailCampers information on a railway heritage program at a respected institution of higher learning and which could lead to a career in railway heritage and a long-term commitment to our industry is consistent with the purpose of the NRHS.

Considering the above, I am asking NRHS executive leadership to re-evaluate their policy with the expected outcome that Davis and Elkins College will be permitted to provide information on their railway heritage program to NRHS RailCampers. This request is not limited to Davis and Elkins College. If there are other fully qualified academic college level programs that include a minor and possible career in railway heritage they should be given equal opportunity to promote their programs.

Currently, I don't know of any. I am not suggesting this exception should be made for museums and other RR heritage programs that may have an educational component but that do not have the academic rigor of an accredited college level program.

Jon Baake
National Representative
Washington DC Chapter, NRHS

Affiliate Membership Issues

NRHS Officers,

Earlier this year Wes Ross included a copy of our membership brochure in his annual mailing to RR attractions and museums, and at my request, asked if they would be willing to display our brochures and (hopefully) promote the NRHS. With thanks to Wes, attached is a list of the 61 such attractions that asked for brochures to display and hand out. The brochures have been mailed out using up my entire stock on hand. Some attractions with the largest number requested were mailed only a partial order and a couple were mailed none. I have re-ordered another 5000 to complete the orders of those attractions that were shorted or missed. Enclosed with each mailing was a note advising the recipients that they could email me when they needed a resupply and I would mail them out.

I will bring some brochures to St Louis (within my luggage weight allowance) and will have as many as needed at Cumberland as I will be driving to the convention.

On the subject of membership. In an earlier email I asked some questions about the capabilities of NEON that remain, at least to me, unresolved. They are:

- The ability for our online member registration to system to ask applicants to check a box indicating how they learned of the NRHS. Examples might be: Another Member, Membership Brochure, NRHS Event, etc. This would help us know what means of publicity are the most effective in attracting new members.
- The ability to use our NEON mailing list to conduct surveys or integrate it with survey software like Survey Monkey. There has been talk about doing a membership survey but we need to use NEON or survey software to construct and run the survey and tabulate the responses.
- A way to automatically send out email reminders to folks that have not renewed by a date certain (two months?) after their membership has expired.

Not on the list but as important is implementing the process for establishing and managing affiliate member accounts. All of the attractions that have agreed to provide admission discounts and display our brochures are potential affiliate members. Affiliate member organizations have the potential to not only provide revenue but also provide publicity.

Please include these items on the Advisory Council and Board Meeting agendas in St Louis. I am committed to increasing our membership and would be willing to lead discussions on these topics at St Louis. I recognize some of these ideas may be beyond the limits of our volunteer base in which case it may be time to consider limited paid support as or where needed.

Jon Baake
National Representative
Washington DC Chapter, NRHS