

WB&A Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

January 6, 2024

John Buxton's Name
Parkville, Maryland

Meeting Start Time: 10:00 AM

Meeting End Time: 11:55 AM

In Attendance

Present: John Buxton, Bob Gray, Chuck McGinnis, John Gomoljak, Bob Heine, and Doug Campbell

Absent: David Eadie, Michael Ackerman, Ron Edwards, Charlie Doring

Guests: Carol McGinnis

A quorum being determined, the meeting was called to order by John Buxton, WB&A President.

OPENING COMMENTS BY PRESIDENT

OLD BUSINESS

1. President's Report – John Buxton

John Buxton thanked Tom Salen and officers for a very successful 2023 WB&A year. He noted our three successful train shows, our close relationship with our two streetcar museums, the continuing "Start Your Day" events, the upcoming 60th Anniversary Banquet, the WB&A website and Facebook page, and our access to purchase WB&A apparel. John cited three goals for 2024: 1) a Virginia train show, 2) an enhanced social media presence, and 3) greater efforts to attract younger folks to our club and leadership involvement.

2. Secretary's Report – Bob Gray

The minutes from the September 9, 2023 Board Meeting held at the State Fair restaurant were reviewed by BOD members. A request was made for additions or corrections to the minutes. A motion to accept the minutes as written was made, seconded and unanimously approved. Bob distributed a 2024 WB&A Officers' List and asked for updates or corrections.

3. Treasurer's Report – John Buxton for Michael Ackerman

John distributed copies of the Treasurer's Report for the period from January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023. He noted that our net for the December Arbutus Meet was close to that of the Annapolis Show and that for the year we gained about \$1,500.00 meaning that our Club's overall financial condition is still very strong. A motion to accept the report was made, seconded and unanimously approved.

The BOD presented Tom Salen with a card thanking him for his long service as Club President that included a gift certificate. Tom thanked the group for their support.

4. Membership Report – Bob Gray

Bob reported that 204 members have paid their 2023 dues leaving only 19 unpaid. These members have until March 1 to pay. We added 7 new members in 2023. Bob will be contacting members who have not paid for 2023 and will share a list of unpaid members with BOD members asap. Seventy-three (73) members have paid their 2024 membership dues at this time.

5. Social Committee – Carol McGinnis

Carol reviewed the WB&A Calendar of Events. The date for the April 24 Start Your Day was changed to April 10. Carol noted the death of WB&A member Don Hemmer. Bob Gray will send a condolence card from WB&A. We are anticipating 60-70 guests for the Anniversary Banquet. The 104 commemorative cars are in transit to Carol. Invitations to attend the banquet have been sent. Speaker for event, Jim Burke is scheduled. Free tickets for the banquet will be offered to the NCTM director, TCA Past Pres, TCA President, Vice President, and President-elect, Director of the Baltimore Streetcar Museum. John Buxton requested a current WB&A email list. Bob Gray noted that he can provide a current email list quickly when requested. Bob asked that BOD members not save email lists for reuse, but rather request a new list each time you want to do a mailing. The committee is still considering a scenic train ride in March.

6. Eastern Division – TCA Report – Bob Heine

Bob reported that the Eastern Division has not met recently so there is nothing to report. Bob took questions related to the recent York Show. 140 tables rented for the pre-show sale.

ONGOING BOARD BUSINESS

1. September 9 Arbutus Meet Review – Chuck McGinnis

Chuck discussed the possible elimination of the September Arbutus Meet so we can add a Virginia show in 2024. This topic will be addressed when we get more information regarding cost of the Arbutus Fire Hall. (See Attached Report on the December Arbutus)

2. Annapolis Show - John Gomoljak

John discussed the location of the D.C. Tracker layout at the Annapolis show. Tables for the event are still available (5 six-foot tables) A discussion ensued regarding a change of date for future Annapolis Shows due to competing shows.

3. Kid's Train Show – Bob Gray

Bob shared the names of planning committee members, exhibitors, and helpers for the 2024 event. He also shared the Task List for the Kids' Show and a proposed budget. The Board approve an expenditure of up to \$700.00 for the event. Bob shared the results of the brainstorming session regarding the content and format for the 2024 show that resulted from a meeting with the NCTM Director and Manager.

4. Trolley– Bob Gray

Bob noted that our Trolley Editor, Paul Pullen would be undergoing surgery this month and that BOD would be willing to assist as need with the upcoming issue as he recovers. John Buxton suggested that we obtain QR codes for the WB&A Facebook page and Facebook group for use in the Trolley and other media formats. Carol McGinnis will work with John in obtaining those codes.

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Chain of command for facilitation of meetings.** The Board determined that if the President could not officiate a WB&A meeting, the next in line would be the Vice President followed by the Secretary.
- 2. Long-Term Planning for WB&A Session -** John Buxton asked and the Board agreed to hold a long-term brainstorming session in January, 2024 to discuss goals and strategies. The Board will hold that session on Wednesday, January 24 as part of the January Start Your Day with WB&A breakfast event. The starting time for this get-together will be changed from 10:00AM to 9:00 AM. When we invite WB&A members to the January Start Your Day event, we will also tell them about the brainstorming session and let them know that if they cannot join us in person, they can still participate by emailing their thoughts to Bob Gray or any other Board member.
- 3. Status of WB&A Cash Reserves –** In response to a question from a WB&A member at our most recent General Business Meeting, the Board reviewed the reasons we maintain a large cash reserve including changes to the Club's tax status that affect, among other things, the amount of work that our volunteer Treasurer must do. The reserve assures that in the event of the cancellation of an event we can cover the costs already incurred. This possibility was evidenced during the COVID pandemic when we had no public events for over a year, so we hold enough in reserve to cover the failure of at least one-year's events.
- 4. Invitation to WB&A Members to Attend BOD Meetings via ZOOM.**
The Board explored the possibility of ZOOMING board meetings and the announcement of BOD meetings to all members along with the agenda for the meetings. Members may attend the meeting in person, but they must contact a Board member indicating that they will attend the meeting. This is necessary because the meetings are often held in private homes with limited space.

NEXT MEETING – The next BOD meeting

A motion to adjourn was made, seconded, and unanimously approved to adjourn at

Minutes submitted by: Bob Gray, WB&A Secretary

Minutes approved on March 2, 2024