

## Apple Valley Model Railroad Club

### Meeting Minutes

July 23rd, 2025

**President's Remarks** (Rob Wright): Elections in October for President, Vice President. If running, please get your name to the board and what position you wish to run for.

**Vice President** (Bill Davies):

**Secretary** (Brad Jones): Absent. Out enjoying life in Portugal.

**Treasurer:** (Larry Morton): Received \$740 in donations box and \$981 in sales. Balance of approximately \$27,373 is in the bank. Expect Christmas party to cost \$3-4K. New awning for outdoor layout is a little more than \$4k. Club approved a \$1,000 donation to N scale club which was impacted by the cancellation of the WNC train show due to Helene.

**Ombudsman** (Dave Simmons):

The How to Build a Railroad video series project is moving forward. Tom Hagerty has taken the lead on this project. Titled Basic Modeling 101: How to build a railroad. Instructors have been identified; however, members need to sign up for classes to coordinate materials for each class.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Membership:** (Chuck Place): One new member, Mark Lundell, was voted in to full membership. Eight more applications are in progress. Introduced Jack Lippincott, Jordan Allision, and Wayne Hamilton who were present.

**Mentor Program** (Ken O'Brien): absent, but always looking for volunteers.

**Good and Welfare** (Earl Hall): Welcomed back Rob Wright who had been out following successful surgery. Asked folks to keep Chuck Batherson in your thoughts and prayers as he goes in for diagnostic procedure. Also, Dave Hull being evaluated and treated for exhaustion related to a condition. Finally, Casey Cavanaugh a long-time contributing member who had move to CA to be close to family passed away.

**Website** (Dan Bails): Absent. Contact Dan for access to website's members only section. Please send to Brad Jones (Secretary) any material you would like posted to website for coordination.

**HO Operations** (Ben Bartlett): absent. Bill Raymond stated that the July OPS session was cancelled due to only 10 respondents, the next session is Aug 19<sup>th</sup>. Bill also discussed the need for a succession plan so that current OPS organizers have a back-up for continued coordination and staging. Contact Bill if interested in being part of that plan.

**Electrical/DCC** (Dan Lang): Dan will be the instructor for the forthcoming electrical class. Recommended a DCC book . DCC for Model Railroaders by Alan Gartner. Discussed issues with

Canton panel, apparently the transfer relay was dislodged; the Spencer panel for Micaville Junction has an issue with the DPDT switch - Repair will require disassembly of the panel and fascia. Continue to have problems with controllers not being returned, placed in correct position, and proper recharging. Please be attentive when using club controllers, ask for assistance if needed.

**Scenery** (Terry Ketcham): Discussed awareness of details such as foliage around base of buildings, and structures so they don't look sterile just sitting on their foundation.

**Building:** (Terry Ketcham): Kudos to Mark for cleaning the sidewalk.

**Outdoor Layout** (Larry Williams): Terry reports there is a problem with the inside loop that requires some track work to resolve the issue. Also purchased 2 additional high top chairs, as the webbing in some of the current chairs is tearing. A deposit has been placed for the replacement of the awning, with work expected in late September. Three flags (2 state and one Hendersonville) have been configured to block the early morning sun primarily an issue on Saturdays during the Farmers Market.

**Club Computers** (Dave Hull): Absent, no report.

**City Liaison** (Terry Ketcham): no report

**Engineer In Training:** (Chuck Batherson): absent. Next EIT is 2 Aug with 2 EITs and 3 mentors scheduled.

**Sales and Donations** (Pete Bain, Steve Anderson, Kevin McGill): Several donations have come in and we have been selling a lot to club members. Mostly Lionel coming in from donations.

**Artifacts** (Sally Ruff): Discussed available digital collection at Baker-Barber Library.

Library: Sally Ruff volunteered to be the Librarian if no one else wants it.

## **OTHER ITEMS**

**Next Meeting:** Aug 27rd at 10AM

**Old Business:** Still looking at having Railroad Day possibly the first weekend in Nov. Considering have Park Ranger in attendance along with Blue Ridge Southern engine.

**New Business:** Layout tours tomorrow, 24 July, flyers with directions and addresses were available on the desk. Larry Morton is setting up more layout tours starting soon. Looking at four geographical quadrants.

Larry Morton stated that a group has purchased East flat Rock to Saluda trackage with idea of Rail and trail options in mind.

Attendees: 34 members present      Meeting ended at 11:20.