

## **BAGRS Board Meeting – 14 August 2010**

8:50 a.m. meeting called to order

### **Board members present:**

- Russ Miller, Chip Gierhart, Frank Lucas, Ray Turner, Bob Evans, Nancy Norris, and Johannes Hoech
- Dennis Mack was there for the baggage car, and Richard Murray and Don Watters were also present

### **Topics:**

#### 1. Secretary's Report: Minutes:

- Johannes read the minutes and they were approved
- Action Items:
  - None

#### 2. Membership Report (Frank Lucas):

- Frank recapped latest membership numbers
- We're again 280 paid up members
  - By this evening we should be 281 members
  - Patterns: New members seem to be coming into the club due to something we do, seeing us in action. So, outreach is a good idea.
- Action Items:
  - None

#### 3. Scheduling Coordinator's Report (Ray Turner):

- Topics: East Bay District Super, Oct. Swap Meet at Kermit's
- These comments were made:
  - This is the Mega-Weekend, Frank is taking care of October, Russ is filling in this year for September
  - We need a permanent Sup for East Bay

- The Swap Meet at Kermit's house: Frank discussed the plan that on October 17<sup>th</sup>, Frank and Kermit show their layouts and Nancy shows off the trailer, Richard does a live steamer, we start the day with a Board meeting, and we end with a Swap Meet. Kermit has a great facility, but someone is needed to act a logistics organizer.
- Action Items:
  - **Russ** and **Ray** to schedule a meeting to discuss redistricting scenarios and prepare recommendation for Board to approve (see also item 12)
  - **Ray** and **Nancy** to write a draft Sup job description for approval by wider club, including new ideas like job sharing
  - **Frank** to work with **Kermit** to find someone to function as logistics coordinator for the Swap Meet at Kermit
  - **Ray** needs to put this event back in the event calendar

4. Live Steamer Report (Richard Murray):

- Topics: 8/28 Los Altos Hist. Museum, 9/4 Ardenwood, 10/3 Just Trains
- These comments were made:
  - The trailer now has a new home for \$80 at Docktown marina
  - Next meet will be at the Los Altos History Museum; Richard anticipates a wonderful meet there as they're very hospitable
  - Ardenwood and Just Trains are coming up, too
- Action Items:
  - None

5. Treasurer's Report (Chip Gierhart):

- Topics: Financial Report, Website Rework and Insurance
- These comments were made:
  - \$2K in the bank, \$1,300 to Nancy, \$2K for misc. expenses; so far we're okay thus far
  - Our low water mark will be in the next 60 days

- We got paid in full from the SFCOF
- Website rework:
  - We will have a photo album capability coming up, we should be able to upload our board member photos
- Action Items:
  - **Chip** to email instructions to every board member on how to upload our photos to the site

6. Public Outreach (Nancy Norris):

- Topics: Radio Show, Trailer Progress and Completion Date
- These comments were made:
  - The trailer will be ready in the October for 3 venues: Just Trains on 1<sup>st</sup> Oct Sunday, Downtown Pleasant Hill for the Art & Wine Festival on 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>, and then the BAGRS Block Party on 17<sup>th</sup>
  - \$6,784 spent to date; \$7K budgetary ceiling
  - They're coming back this Wed to finish scenery, and a few other finishing tasks; Nancy reports having been side-tracked by her book project
- Action Items:
  - **Chip** to pay Nancy for remaining unpaid receipts

7. Baggage Car (Dennis Mack):

- Topics: Online Store Up and Running
- These comments were made:
  - Up online and running, but no sales yet
  - Need to start marketing now so we drive sales
  - Motion for the club to test the system by buying inventory for the board members was approved
- Action Items:
  - **Chip** to put mention in the newsletter and also show it on the website

- **Dennis** to execute the approved motion for trial buys for board members
- **All:** Send your sizes to Dennis ;-)

8. Newsletter Report (Russ Miller):

- Topics: New Editor needed for the T&T
- These comments were made:
  - Jennifer wants out, she has too much going on, so we need to get a new person asap; she'll produce the book for the West Coast meet so she'll be overloaded
  - Motion for Don, Chip and Russ to find new approach to publishing newsletter
- Action Items:
  - **Don, Chip** and **Russ** to find new solution to newsletter publishing and present recommendation to Board

9. Vice President's Report (Bob Evans)

- Topics: 2011 Annual Meeting:
- These comments were made:
  - Bob presented the recommendation to locate the next meeting at the Hiller Aviation Museum
    - Motion to meet at Hiller was approved
    - \$13 would be the member fee to attend the annual meeting at the Hiller
    - Pick a date in February, avoiding Valentine's Day
  - The bylaws are written
- Action Items:
  - None

10. Market Planning Activities (Johannes Hoech):

- Topics: Marketing Team Update

- These comments were made:
  - Johannes reviewed the marketing plan again that had been emailed out to the board before the June board meeting since no comments and reactions had been received
  - Motion to endorse the recommendations of the marketing plan and authorize Johannes to come up with next steps was approved
- Action Items:
  - **Johannes:** Email recommendations again to the board, and set up conf. call / meeting with interested members on finalizing the to be implemented recommendation
  - **ALL:** Please send comments to Johannes, all comments welcome

#### 11. Old Business (Bob Evans & Russ Miller)

- Topics: Updates to By-Laws: Term Limits, 2011 West Coast Regional: Committee formation
- These comments were made:
  - We didn't discuss bylaws
  - On the West Coast Regional:
    - **Ray** will organize the layouts for touring
    - **Bob** volunteered to organize a BBQ/picnic (PLA/Niles Canyon Rwy. would be an ideal tie-in/venue)
    - We will have tours Sunday 8/10 - 8/14. July 13-17 there is the national steam-up in Sacto., so live steamers will be heading up there July 13 and need to be scheduled to be open in the Bay Area before that
    - **Jennifer** volunteered to do the tour booklet and will get the template from the Tacoma convention
  - Somewhat separate from the West Coast Regional is the NMRA convention July 3-9 in Sacramento and how they have asked for BAGRS participation

- NMRA plans a Bay Area bus tour and asked BAGRS to have a few RRs open on whatever day they will do that, which is an unknown date at this time
  - Also, NMRA has asked BAGRS to have a few RRs open for folks traveling TO the convention (probably July 3). It was mentioned that the NMRA open houses should be more appealing to the "scale/realistic" nature of NMRA modelers
  - NMRA has also asked Russ for some ideas / presenters for clinics.
- Action Items:
  - See names above

## 12. New Business (Frank Lucas, input from Ray and Chip):

- Topics: Intro to Redistricting ideas, new ways to use our database to increase value to our members
- These comments were made:
  - Generally, people don't think we should have a tour in November. Weather is an issue as well as people getting busy with the holiday season. Hence, the desire to consolidate into fewer districts
  - There is agreement on that but no specific decisions made, but there is agreement that this needs more discussion and needs to be driven by our vision of BAGRS
- Action Items:
  - **Ray** will develop a proposal for next Board meeting to drive and get closure on the redistricting issue (see also item 3)
- Other discussion:
  - National Conventions: Russ attended the discussion of future NGRCs in Tacoma. Here's the lineup. 2011 - Kansas City, 2012 - Chicago, 2013 - Cincinnati, 2014 - Tampa Bay, 2015 - Denver. Russ said it would be nice if BAGRS took 2016 - 10 years after our last hosting. This was just to think about. Decision won't be made until next summer's NGRC. We would need a volunteer chairperson before throwing our hat in and would need to give a presentation to the NGRC to "pitch it", if we

wanted to do it. Russ mentioned that people in Tacoma asked for us to do it again and that clubs across the U.S. look to BAGRS as a leader in the hobby. We have lots of time to discuss this before deciding.

- Future West Coast Regionals:
  - 2011 – BAGRS
  - 2012 - San Diego
  - 2013 - Portland

**Next Board Meeting:**

- On October 17 at **XX** am at Frank Lucas' house

**Adjourned** at 10:45 a.m.