

## **BAGRS Board Meeting 5/18/2014**

Meeting called to order at 10:15 am

### **Board members and guests present:**

- Russ Miller, Bruce Jahn, Bill Rutledge, Bob Evans, Jim Anthony, Don Watters, Ron Gerber, Steve Smith

### **Minutes**

A motion was submitted to approve the minutes for the February 15 Annual Meeting 23, 2013 meeting. The motion was seconded and approvedd

### **Steamers Report**

Russ Miller reported on behalf of the Live Steamers. The Steamers are exhibiting at the Maker Faire this weekend and drawing huge crowds. They are invited to exhibit at the Faire for free as they are a big draw. They have plans to be at Roaring Camp for Father's Day. The Diablo Pacific Short Line will be there as well.

### **Website Report**

Jim Anthony reported on the BAGRS website. The provider is installing new software and this will happen on the third weekend in June. There will not be any outward changes, but the internals will be easier to work with. On the subject of the website, the board members congratulated Ray Turner on a job well done one the newsletter.

### **Summer Picnic Report**

Don Watters reported on the summer picnic. Russ and Don are checking with Kevin Lynch in Portola Valley to see if he would be interested in hosting the picnic. If not, Don is happy to serve as the backup host. However, he said that we need to confirm soon. The estimate is for 80 -100 people, with expenses figured at \$15 / head or so.

### **Postcard Report**

Don reported that there was a technical issue with the postcard mailing last month and that Bill Rutledge needs to get clear instructions to be able to get the postcards out on time and accurately. The board agrees to address this.

### **Outreach**

Nancy Norris has asked BAGRS to send the newsletter photos of prototypes of the trains, buildings and scenes that they are modeling as well as photos of the finished product.

Russ mentioned that it is in our interest to have lots of articles in Garden Railways magazine in advance of the annual convention in 2016.

Jim asked if we were going to use the Hiller museum again for the annual meeting. The board said yes, it is a great venue.

### **Finance Report**

Bob Edwards reported that we have \$14,250 in our operating account, which is a high water mark for the year. We have \$168,222 in CDs and other investments.

### **2016 Convention Report**

Russ moved to the topic of the 2016 convention. He said that the Tampa convention did not go so well, despite 400 attendees. He wants to make the 2016 convention the best one yet and passed out a list of information he has gathered so far.

In terms of advertising and marketing, Jim has registered the domain name for the 2016 convention.

Russ is looking into the Santa Clara convention center as a venue. They are happy to have us if we can agree on mutually workable dates.

Richard Murray has agreed to help with the convention planning.

In terms of tours, it was decided to provide tourist info but not to organize any specific tours.

Bruce Jahn presented different layout options for the Diablo Pacific Short line to set up in the convention hall. Due to the flexibility of their equipment, they can set up many different sized layouts to accommodate the space.

Russ mentioned that his wife Jennifer has been doing graphic work and would like to start charging for her time. The board approved paying Jennifer for her work.

There was a decision to not have golden spike layouts at the convention as this caused problems in 2006

Ron Gerber agreed to volunteer on the convention committee in a role to be determined.

Jim Goss has agreed to be treasurer.

Don Watters agreed to provide support to the convention committee.

The next step is to put together a convention committee and a list of volunteer positions to be filled.

Jim Anthony nominated Russ Miller as chair of the convention committee. Steve Smith seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15