

BAGRS Board Meeting

Actions:

Colin to see if he can log in to our Google Analytics to see website data. If not, contact Ray or Chip for the password.

Mick & Colin: ask **David** to make a hidden sample webpage for the board to look at and give feedback.

Colin make a business ad to send to Carla for the national newsletter. It is free.

Next board meeting: Sunday November 8th at 10am.

Mick to send out Zoom link and password.

Minutes:

Call to order at 10:02am

Mick, Colin, Sarah, Russ, Mike, Lynn, John, Rich in attendance

Good with Hootsuite. Mike send Mick reimbursement form.

Interviews on Friday for the web design. Went really well. We have a good feeling about David Meese. He offered to be Jim Anthony's backup person for the website in 2016 but nothing ever happened. He's done a lot of investigation on Wild Apricot. Other guy was very nice, showed other websites but they aren't really the style we want. David has a long background in websites. His follow up has been incredible. Very easy to work with and talk to. Seems open to what other's opinions are. He is going to research the WordPress' connection to Wild Apricot. Yes he has background in the commerce side of things. Portland uses Wild Apricot for their convention website.

Wild Apricot doesn't provide web statistics. But there is a connection to Google Analytics. We don't know how to get into that. Ask Ray, or Chip.

Mick: motion to make David our webmaster; Colin seconded; All in favor.

First order of business for David: Make the website more mobile friendly. If WordPress can work, it will automatically convert to mobile. Can we get a hidden sample page for the board to look at?

Next week Bill Derville will send out a national newsletter sent out to every club everywhere.

Sunday, August 30, 2020

Focus was on saving the vendors when GR ended. Then a new organization, new board of directors, national newsletter, paid editor, etc. was proposed without thought. Whiteriver productions might be doing something? GR building a website? Bill is planning on dictating to clubs how the newsletter gets distributed, and its 42 pages.

BAGRS position: provide articles and start up money if needed. BAGRS will not have a part in the "organization".

Let's send it out and then find out what people think, how clubs decide to distribute, what works, what doesn't, etc.

Colin, come up with small ad for your business to send to Carla to put into the newsletter.

The hope is that this will be free to anyone who finds it. It will be accessible to beginners, etc, and all could subscribe to get it.

They don't currently have a monetary system set up.

Russ: BAGRS supplies articles (get permission from our writers to be copied) into a national newsletter, put info out to our vendors so they can submit ads for free, and if and when it becomes necessary we can think about giving start up money to help run the national newsletter. Money could be to help with the website, or the distribution of the newsletter. Maybe it's premature to talk about money. Have a "wait and see" attitude on its acceptance. All in favor.

New Members: 14 since January. 3 were rejoin-ers, and a couple steamers!

Mick experimented with a Google Meet Up yesterday. It worked so much better than Zoom. Video resolution was great. Will send out a trial meeting this week for those that can join and see the difference from Zoom.

Live Steam: No updates aside from continuing to run trains at home. Informed the board that Leo passed last week. Jack will do a write-up for the newsletter likely next month. Ray will post a notice this month.

Mick shared that Steve Smith has built a cable car run with automatic turntables and other electronics. It is magnificent. Mick will do a short video so be on the lookout for that!

Mick is processing 42 convention car orders for Nashville! May need help getting payment from a couple members.

Annual Meet: need to think about other ideas outside of Hiller in February just in case since we don't know how things will continue to go.

- Maybe an outdoor event in April? And incorporate a swap meet.
- Red Oak Liberty ship in the harbor in Point Richmond. BAGRS member is running it and has offered it as a possible place to hold a meet on the ship.

Instagram account is gaining more followers.

Sunday, August 30, 2020

Swanton Pacific update. Unfortunate devastation from the fires. They are an incredible bunch of people. We would like to figure out a way to help them out. And get back to doing events there.

Roaring Camp is ok. Everything was moved out.

No members lost their house. Ray Turner was close but he's ok.

Domain name has been paid and renewed for another 5 years.

Wild Apricot is paid up through April of 2021 (next year). We will revisit this later in the year to figure out what's next.

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Meeting adjourned at 11:15am.