

BSRA Virtual Business Meeting Minutes 07/11/2020

The July 11, 2020 Virtual Business Meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by President Bradley Clarke via Zoom Video Conference.

President's Remarks: Thank you all for joining our first electronic meeting. Our monthly meetings are business meetings first, followed by entertainment. Normally we present reports from officers and ask for a vote, present applicants for Intermediate and Regular Membership and vote on their applications, handle old and new business, discuss current events in Boston transit, hear from our entertainment chair, and adjourn the meeting, followed by the entertainment presentation.

I have met most of you over the years, and I am pleased to see so many in attendance. Usually we have 40-50 members present, but via the Internet platform, the sky's the limit.

As you know, Covid-19 has forced us to meet in this fashion, and other groups have told me that they find it preferable. Let us know what you think.

We have also had to send out *RollSign* electronically, and a number of members have told us that they prefer it that way, although others prefer the printed version. Again, let us know what you like. For the immediate future, we will distribute the magazine both ways, with the electronic version and the printed version going to the majority of members who have verified with us their email addresses. Those who have not signed for email distribution will receive the printed version only.

Unfortunately, another casualty of Covid-19, our book on the Green Line from 1964 to date, has had to be put on hold while we struggled to put these new programs in place. Thank you for your patience and support!

The Type 5 No. 5706 program is currently on hold as we await completion of our restoration contractor's new workshop, but we expect work to continue later this year. In the meantime, we have been building back the 5706 fund with your help and a very welcome bequest from a former member. Thanks for your support. Your Association appreciates it.

We are limiting participation in this meeting to our members and we may welcome others once we have electronic meetings solidly established.

We have four new applicants for Regular Membership this evening. They are: Mike Colello of Medford, MA; Richard S. O'Kane of Exeter, NH; Sean Smyth of Quincy, MA; and Tanner Stephanie Glickman of Brighton, MA.

Please vote in the poll we are sending. Only Regular Members can vote, so please refrain if you are not.

Poll posted and all four applicants were accepted for Regular Membership.

If there is new or old business that requires action, please post in your chat box on the lower right corner of your screen now.

Not seeing any questions, President Clarke asked for reports from the Treasurer, Publication Director,

Treasurer's Report: Charlie Bahne read the following Treasurer's Report from March through June 2020:

Boston Street Railway Association, Inc.

Summary Treasurer's Report, 4 months, March 1 – June 30, 2020

(detailed report is available for download)

General Fund

Income..... \$7,247.16

Expenses\$14,443.65

Cash on hand 6/30/2020.....\$19,672.10

5706 Fund

Income.....\$31,606.48

Expenses\$1,808.71

Cash on hand 6/30/2020..... \$55,809.61

Combined cash on hand 6/30/2020 \$75,481.71

- General Fund income and expenses are normal for this time of year; most of the annual income is received October–January but expenses are spread throughout the year.

- We have received a very generous bequest of \$30,000, which the Directors have allocated to the 5706 Fund.

- Through July 9, we have received \$3,863 from a total of 57 donors, in response to our summer Fund Appeal letter, with more still coming

A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the Treasurer's Report as read.

Publication Director's Report: Mike Prescott read the following summary:

Since our last in-person Business Meeting, the Publications Department has been hard at work both fulfilling orders, and adapting our processes to the new pandemic environment. Part of this involved the advertisement of new books and other items in the BSRA's new eBulletins and digital RollSign delivery emails. We have already seen a strong sales responses to these emails, and hope that our members benefit from this additional way to discover new books during this time of limited shopping opportunities. In addition to the emails, we produced PDF catalogs to accompany several mailings and digital RollSigns, and produced a print Summer catalog to accompany the print RollSign mailing. This print catalog featured all of the new items recently rolled out, as well as some more, and the response has been strong thus far. We are working on our next catalog, which will accompany the May/June print and digital mailings of RollSign in the coming weeks. In lieu of our in-person meeting sales, we are also encouraging attendees of our virtual meetings to peruse our latest bookstore additions at www.thebsra.org/store

Director of Car Restoration Report: Brad Clarke reported that donations were coming in strongly from the Summer Fund Appeal.

RollSign Director's Report: Nick Tomkavage read the following summary:

Members have received the January-February and March-April editions enclosed in one yellow envelope. Work is underway on the May-June issue which will feature a historical article on Lechmere and coverage of its last days in service and its ensuing demolition. Also included will be the usual selection of MBTA current events. We expect it to be released sent to print during the second week of August and distributed to the members digitally at that time.

Director at Large reports: None.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Current events: Jonathan Belcher read the following report of activity on the MBTA:

July 2020 MBTA Current Events:

Green -16 Type 9s are now accepted. Cars 3911, 3913, 3914, 3915, and 3916 were accepted between March and July; 3906, 3917, 3918, 3919, 3920, and 3921 are in testing, two cars (3922-3923) are left to deliver.

-Type 7s 3601 and 3665 returned to service from long-term repair.

-Track programs: Riverside was shut-down for two 9-day periods, C is now shut-down, and E will be next in August. Lechmere closed in May, new station to open with extension to Union Sq. next spring.

Orange -The 12 accepted 1400s returned to service, the last three pairs delivered (1412/13, 1414/15, 1426/27) have all been accepted for 18 total. There are enough to run 3-trains, but so far the MBTA has chosen to consistently run two weekdays. Production has been delayed because of COVID.

Red -1900-1905 remain in testing, no word on revenue debut or additional deliveries.

-Track program: Braintree-Quincy shut-down for 14 days for track and station work

Blue- Track program: Bowdoin-Airport shut-down for 14 days to rebuild track between Maverick and Airport

Commuter Rail- Locomotives 1031 and 1035 were accepted, first 10 rebuilt F40PH-3Cs are all now in service. 10 are at Erie, 17 in service not rebuilt.

-K car overhaul: 87 done, 10 at Hornell, 9 left to go.

-The 2nd MBB car overhauled in Rochester MA returned to service, it is a former 1500 series cab car that has been rebuilt as a blind trailer and renumbered 533.

-Car 1533 returned from repairs at Delaware car and cars 1651 and 1812 returned to service following repairs.

Construction shutdowns: West Gloucester-Rockport shut-down for bridge work, Lowell was shut-down Anderson-Boston for GLX, Greenbush is shut-down off-peak for tree

cutting, longer than planned Worcester Line shut-down between Ashland and Boston for PTC/ATC cut-over. Some equipment moved over Grafton & Upton via new rebuilt connection in Milford

Bus- 0855 is last 2008 New Flyer left to return from rehab at Midwest, it should be back later in summer.

-Scraping of the stored RTS fleet at Everett was completed between March and May, former command post bus 8545 was also scrapped.

-149 of 194 1925-2118 series buses are accepted, the order should be completed by September. The additional 60 on order will now arrive between September and December.

-D40LFs continue to be transferred from Charlestown to Albany, 105 so far of 130, plus 0600-0603 were transferred from Quincy to Albany. Last week, 20 2008 New Flyers from Quincy were swapped with 20 2006/07 New Flyers from Albany in order to increase the quantity of buses equipped with automatic passenger counters at Albany

-Neoplans continue to be removed from service, 70 of 192, have been brought to Everett or are waiting to be towed to Everett. They will be removed from Albany first, but not from Fellsway until after next 60 new busses arrive. Up to 80 will be retained as contingency fleet, and some engine rebuilds continue at Everett.

-Busses 0450 and 0451 are now the dedicated commuter rail emergency shuttle busses, replacing 0309. 0309 is now considered a historic bus like 2600.

-Buses 0477 and 0506 have been leased to CATA for use on the Gloucester commuter rail shuttle

-Overhaul of 1200-1224 series buses began in March, 6 buses, including accident damaged bus 1207 are at NEBR facility in Ronkonkoma NY

-Emergency service schedule, based on Saturday schedule, began March 17th. There has been no trackless trolley service since the emergency schedule began.

Entertainment Report: Lucius Chiaraviglio summarized the upcoming entertainment through October 2020.

Officers, Directors and Committee Chairs tuned in included Bradley Clarke, Tom Athearn, Tadd Anderson, Charlie Bahne, Jonathan Belcher, Dan Cohen, Ron Clough, Nick Tomkavage, Mike Prescott, Lucius Chiaraviglio and Dana Frisbee.

Adjournment: The Business Meeting adjourned at 8:05PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Tadd Anderson

Secretary, Boston Street Railway Association

7/25/2020