

BSRA Virtual Business Meeting Minutes 12/05/2020

The December 5, 2020 Virtual Business Meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by President Bradley Clarke via Zoom Video Conference. The Annual Meeting was combined with the Business Meeting.

President's Remarks: Welcome to our December monthly business meeting and our sixth held on the Internet. Let me wish all of you, our members and guests, safe and happy holidays and a wonderful New Year!

Voting in this meeting is limited to members, so if you are a guest or a non-voting Associate member, Intermediate Member, or a *RollSign* subscriber, please refrain from voting in the polls that will be conducted.

We have posted for your consideration, the reports of our Secretary and Treasurer for the November 2020 Business Meeting held on November 7.

We normally waive the reading of the Secretary's report, but we ask our Treasurer to read a short form summary of the Treasurer's Report.

Treasurer's Report: Charlie Bahne read the following Treasurer's Report from November 2020:

(detailed report is available for download)

General Fund

Income.....	\$4,551.40
Expenses	\$7,932.69
Cash on hand 11/30/2020.....	\$30,643.63

5706 Fund

Income.....	\$499.16
Expenses	\$455.04
Cash on hand 11/30/2020.....	\$64,989.96
<i>Combined cash on hand 11/30/2020.....</i>	<i>\$95,633.59</i>

- All sources of income have remained strong, including dues renewals, new members, donation, and bookstore sales.
- Bookstore sales came to \$2,876.10, not counting tax or shipping. Online sales were especially strong, up 75% from last year.
- Expenses were normal for this time of year, including printing and mailing an issue of *RollSign*, and buying inventory for our bookstore.
- Our annual holiday fund appeal letter is in the mail. We welcome and appreciate your year-end, tax-deductible donations.
- Since 1999, we've raised a total of \$416,343.53 for the 5706 Fund.

Publication Director's Report: Mike Prescott read the following report: Since our last meeting, we produced our December 2020 Publications Catalog, which includes a number of new items including those you see on screen. Our full annual selection of

traction and railroad calendars is also now available by mail order and in our online store, and we will continue to add more new items to the online store as we get them in. There have been a couple stock issues to be aware of. First of all the new hardcover edition of "The Train on the Beach" was delayed coming to us from the distributor, but it has finally arrived; we do expect to sell out of this first batch, though, and may not receive replenishment batch in time for Christmas, so please bear with us on that one. Other titles that have recently run out are New Hampshire Rail Trails and several Morning Sun Books titles, but all are in the process of being replenished. We encourage you to place any Christmas-specific orders in the next few days if possible, as we are experiencing a high order volume and may also encounter delays in receiving replenishment stock from vendors. We also expect there to be a higher than normal strain on the country's shipping networks this season, which may result in longer shipping times. As always, our volunteer Warehouse Manager, Ron Clough, will process orders as quickly as he can, and fulfills them in the order in which they were received. Ron deserves special thanks this holiday season as he processes an influx of orders within the ongoing pandemic situation. We encourage you to browse our full selection online at thebsra.org/store and thank you for all your orders, as they help keep the BSRA running all year long.

Director of Car Restoration Report: Brad Clarke reported that work on 5706 is still currently on hold due to the pandemic. Work should resume in 2021.

RollSign Director's Report: Nick Tomkavage read the following summary: The September/October issue has been sent to all members via mail and email, although some have experienced delays. Work on the November/December issue is underway.

Director at Large reports: None.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Tadd Anderson read the names of following applicants who were voted on for Regular Membership:

ANDREW HARTFORD, WEST NEWTON, MA
Regular Member (upgrade from RollSign Subscriber)

PHILLIP JONES, ALLSTON, MA
Regular Member

SAMUEL STAITI, ARLINGTON, MA
Intermediate Member

ERIC A. SAVAGE, JR., SANFORD, ME
Regular Member

STEVEN UBOWSKI, TAUNTON, MA
Regular Member

A token ballot was cast for the Secretary to accept the two new regular members as read.

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

Green Line:

Type 9s: 3917 and 3918 were accepted, these are the first accepted since summer. There are now 18 accepted cars. Six more cars (3906, 3919-3923) remain in testing.

Orange Line:

1418/1419 accepted, this increases active fleet to 24. 1420/1421 should be in testing soon.

Red Line:

1900-1905 remain in testing, MBTA says target for revenue service debut is now “Winter 2021” which could mean this month or January

Commuter Rail:

K car overhaul: 93 done, 2 in testing, 8 at Hornell, 3 left to go

Bus:

All 194 1925-2118 series buses are accepted. 31 of the additional 60 buses (3100-3159 are accepted), all 60 to be in by late December or early January. The group is split between Lynn and Charlestown. 1400-1459 will be transferred to Lynn. 34 have been transferred so far. 0734-0754 and 0800s at Lynn are being transferred to Albany, 0600s at Albany are being transferred to Fellsway. Neoplan active fleet is down to 80 of 162 active, all at Fellsway. It now looks like only a small number of Neoplans will be retained as a contingency fleet. The MBTA picked-up option to buy 45 more XDE60 buses from New Flyer, these will replace the 1101-1132 Neoplan dual-modes and will be delivered between January and June 2022. The busses will be able to operate from battery power in the South Boston Transitway and on the busway in Chelsea. They will also feature two powered axles, so that they can operate in ice and snow conditions.

Entertainment Report: Lucius Chiaraviglio summarized the upcoming entertainment through March 2021.

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

Adjournment: The Business Meeting adjourned at 7:53PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Tadd Anderson
Secretary, Boston Street Railway Association
12/29/2020