

BSRA Virtual Business Meeting Minutes 4/03/2021

The April 3, 2021 Virtual Business Meeting was called to order at 7:33 PM by President Bradley Clarke via Zoom Video Conference.

- 1) **President's Remarks:** Welcome to our April monthly business meeting
- 2) Tonight's entertainment
 - Eric Oszustowicz on TRANSIT in NEW YORK, POLAND AND UKRAINE
- 3) Reminders
 - Please Renew: 62 unrenewed, so January-February RollSign will be your last if you don't. We don't want to lose you as a member
 - Annual Fund Drive donations are still coming in. Please donate if you have not already. Any amount is gratefully appreciated, large or small
 - Bookstore sales continue well. Please support them. Postal service problems have largely ended
- 4) Next, the business section of the meeting
 - Voting is limited to Regular Members.
 - Guests, Associate Members, Intermediate Members, and Subscribers, do not vote in the polls for report approvals, on new members, and on adjournment
 - Guests are welcome, but we ask you to consider joining BSRA if you like what we do. Our dues are a low \$25 per year for Regular or Intermediate Membership and offer many benefits. Please look at our website to join and more information
- 5) We have posted the reports of our Secretary for the March Meeting, and for the March Treasurer report. We normally waive the reading of the Secretary's report, but our Treasurer reads a summary of the Treasurer's Report.

Treasurer's Report: Charlie Bahne read the following Treasurer's Report from March 2021:

General Fund:

Income.....	\$5,256.39
Expenses	\$6,037.13
Cash on hand 3/31/2021.....	\$28,992.69

5706 Fund:

Income.....	\$675.80
Expenses	\$450.70
Cash on hand 3/31/2021.....	\$67,265.40
<i>Combined cash on hand 3/31/2021</i>	<i>\$96,258.09</i>

- Our General Fund balance is the highest ever for this time of year.
- Bookstore sales remain very strong, especially our online sales.
- Final renewal reminder notices have been mailed to 60 members and subscribers who haven't yet renewed for 2021.
- If you would like to renew, but are having difficulties due to the pandemic, please let us know. We don't want to lose you!
- Since 1999, we've raised a total of \$421,434.95 for the 5706 Fund.

Publication Director's Report: Mike Prescott read the following report: Sales from our Winter 2021 Catalog, which featured a number of new items as well as a selection of Winter Specials, were quite strong, and we thank everyone who participated in our special sale, which ended this past week. As we enter Spring, we are about to send our Spring catalog to the printer, which will be mailed with the January/February RollSign, and will contain several new titles like those you see on your screen. These are already available in our online store, so if you want to get a head start, or check out our full selection of books, gift items, and clearance items in our online store, visit www.thebsra.org/store We deeply appreciate anyone's choice to shop from us rather than some of our much larger competitors, as the funds we take in from sales help keep us going year round. Please also remember that, as a small nonprofit, we operate out of a tiny storage unit in Quincy, and don't have the logistics or delivery capabilities of larger companies. We rely entirely on manual, volunteer labor - largely by Warehouse Manager Ron Clough - and the US Postal Service. Please bear that in mind when it comes to processing times and shipping expectations. Thank you for your continued support! Finally I just want to give a quick update on the next installment of our "Streetcar Lines of the Hub" book series. Work has picked back up in full force, and we are optimistic about publication this year, which would coincide with the opening of the Green Line extension to Somerville and Medford. More to come as we get closer.

Director of Car Restoration Report: Brad Clarke reported that the Association just received a \$2,000 grant from the Mass Bay RRE towards safety glass, air piping and the brake cylinder rebuilding.

Our restorer's new shop should be finished by mid-summer, held up by Covid-19 work restrictions, but now moving forward again

RollSign Director's Report: Mike Prescott reported in the absence of Nick Tomkavage that the November/December 2020 issue was sent to members by email last week, and the print version is currently in the mail. Work on the January/February 2021 issue is ongoing.

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:

SHERRY FOGEL, FAIRFIELD, CT *Regular Member*

ETHAN LONG, ALLSTON, 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: There are still four Type 9 cars remaining to accept: 3919, 3920, 3922, 3923, cars are still operating only as singles. Type 7 Car 3659 returned to service after having been out for over a year.

Orange Line/Red Line: Cars 1400/1401 derailed March 16 on crossover during planned single-tracking at Wellington, MBTA is investigating cause. Switch is 45 years old, but there have been five other derailments of CRRC cars on yard switches at Wellington. All CRRC cars including Red Line cars, removed from service until cause is determined. Shuttle buses operating Sullivan-Oak Grove until planned track work is complete in April

Commuter Rail: K car overhaul: 100 done, 1 in testing, 5 at Hornell. Surplus coaches are being stored at Seaview Railroad in RI and BET, 32 cars stored to date: 20 Pullmans, 1 Bombardier, and 11 MBBs. All active Pullmans and MBBs are being shifted to North Side and Rotems to South Side. MBBs 519 and 540 returned from overhaul at Kinki-Sharyo -Car 374 returned from repair at Delaware Car. Locomotives 1057 and 1074 accepted, however 1057 had a HEP engine stack fire and will require warranty repairs. 1033 and 1070 are next units to ship to Erie for rebuild, while 1063 is returning for warranty work. 010 and 011 still awaiting shipment

Bus: 0800s at Lynn are being transferred to Albany, 19 2008s are still at Lynn. 48 0600s transferred to Fellsway so far. Neoplan 0400-0593 fleet is down to 63 of 111 active, 29 at Fellsway and 34 at Southampton as winter contingency fleet. 3 also leased to CATA, bus 0494 sent back to CATA

Entertainment Report: Lucius Chiaraviglio summarized the upcoming entertainment through July 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 Jim Gately.

Adjournment: The Business Meeting adjourned at 8:01PM.

Respectfully submitted,

4/28/2021

Tadd Anderson

Secretary, Boston Street Railway Association