

BSRA Virtual Business Meeting Minutes 6/05/2021

The June 5, 2021 Virtual Business Meeting was called to order at 7:32 PM by President Bradley Clarke via Zoom Video Conference.

1) Welcome to our June BSRA business meeting

- We're glad to see so you all in attendance. In an odd way, the pandemic has brought with it Zoom meetings and the sharing of our programs with so many more of our members that attended the in-person meetings in the past. We have not given up on meetings in person, however. Looking ahead, we can see an annual meeting and a possible mid-year meeting at a local hotel or other venue. Other opportunities to gather in person would likely be on future fan trips and at gatherings such as the big annual railroad show at West Springfield sponsored by our friends, the Amherst Railway Society. Many of our members attend this show and stop by to say "hello" and chat at our tables.

2) Tonight's entertainment

- Clark Frazier presents *Tramways and Interurbans of Japan, China and Hong Kong*. Clark has traveled extensively and treated us with a number of memorable shows in the past.

A Few Reminders

- We will soon be sending out our new Annual Fund Drive, an effort that raises money for our General Fund and for the Type 5 No. 5706 Fund.
- The General Fund supports our day-to-day activities and donations to it allows us to purchase items that we could not normally buy. Most recently, we placed an order for a new computer for the Treasurer's office, bringing up to snuff hardware long in the tooth and in some instances, out of date software!
- The 5706 Fund ensures continuation of our most ambitious project, the restoration of our 97-year-old historic streetcar, Boston Type 5 No. 5706, to full operating condition. This car when finished will be one of the most extensive streetcar restorations ever done and will be a source of pride for the Association and its members and a public educational benefit for many future generations.
- Your continued support of our bookstore is very much appreciated and provides much-needed revenue to the BSRA. Sales growth this past year has been extraordinary thanks to you, our members!

3) Now to the business section of the meeting

- Voting is limited to Regular Members.
 - Guests, Associate Members, Intermediate Members, and Subscribers don't vote in our polls to approve reports, new members, adjournment, and other business matters.
 - Our non-member guests are always welcome, but please consider joining the BSRA if you like our programs. Dues are a low \$25 per year for Regular or Intermediate Membership and offer several benefits. Please see our website to join and for more information
- 4) The report of our Secretary for the May Meeting, and the May Treasurer report have been posted ahead of this meeting. Normally we waive the reading of the Secretary's report, but our Treasurer reads a summary of the Treasurer's Report.

Boston Street Railway Association, Inc.
 Summary Treasurer's Report, May, 2021
(detailed report is available for download)

General Fund

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------|
| Income..... | \$3,772.09 |
| Expenses | \$3,332.93 |
| Cash on hand 5/31/2021..... | \$25,511.25 |

5706 Fund

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| Income..... | \$3,093.69 |
| Expenses | \$473.45 |
| Cash on hand 5/31/2021..... | \$69,694.82 |
| <i>Combined cash on hand 5/31/2021</i> | <i>\$95,206.07</i> |

- Our bookstore sales, both online and mail order, continue to be extremely strong.
- We're down to just 38 members and subscribers who haven't renewed for 2021 – but we have 37 who have joined in the past year!
- Our summer fund appeal mailing will be mailed out soon.
- Since 1999, we've raised a total of \$424,789.41 for the 5706 Fund.

Publication Director's Report: Mike Prescott read the following report: We are preparing our summer catalog, which will contain new items like the two new books you see on screen from the Shore Line Interurban Historical Society in Chicago. [read names] We are also looking forward to the ERA's production of "The Elevated Railways of Brooklyn and the BMT Subway", which is expected soon, and we expect to be quite popular with our members. You can view our full and updating selection of new and older books on our website at 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!

Director of Car Restoration Report: The 5706 fund stands at \$69,700 - See our Treasurer's Report

- We will be moving No. 5706 by truck to our contractors' site in Virginia soon. The car has had extensive work done over the years and has been stored over the pandemic at The Rail Technical Services facility in Connecticut.
- To ensure that the car was well protected, we wrapped it, a process that is more commonly associated with boat protection, but is being increasingly used in other industries, including the transit industry.

RollSign Director's Report: Nick Tomkavage reported that the March/April 2021 issue has been sent to the printer and will be distributed digitally and by US Mail later this month.

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:

T. P. LESNIAK of STAFFORD SPRINGS, CT

BUD RATH of CHEYENNE, WY

REUBEN VIERLING-CLAASSEN of CAMBRIDGE, MA as an Intermediate Member

A motion was made for the Secretary to cast a token ballot to accept the two new regular members and intermediate member as read.

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

Green Line: Type 9s were again briefly removed from service. Interior handrails needed to be modified after one failed and struck a person (person was not injured)

Orange Line/Red Line: Investigation continues into the CRRC car derailments. None will return to service until investigation has been completed. The MBTA believes issue is with side-bearer pads not wearing properly as cars accumulate miles.

Commuter Rail: K car overhaul: 102 done with 4 at Hornell. 536, former 1521, MBB has been overhauled in Rochester and has entered service. Coach 225 is the new café car/first-class car and has entered service on Cape Flyer. The coach has been out of service since 2013.

Bus: Seventeen 3100s sent back to Charlestown from Lynn, Charlestown fleet was too small. The split is now 42 busses at Charlestown and 18 at Lynn. 15 2008 built New Flyers were sent back to Lynn from Albany. 31 2008s are now assigned to Lynn. The Neoplan 0400-0593 fleet remains at 59 of 111 active with 20 at Fellsway and 39 at Southampton as winter contingency fleet. 3 are leased to CATA. New Flyer 0600-0754 busses are having permanent driver-barrier shields installed with 15-20 out at any time for work. Neoplan fleet at Fellsway may be retired once work on the 0600- 0754 fleet has been completed. The 1200-1224 overhaul program is now up to 4 busses completed and 7 being worked on. Routes 18, 52, 55-(midday only), and 68 being restored for summer service. Route 435 is being extended to Salem to replace Route 465
Plymouth & Brockton has resumed service.

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

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

Adjournment: The Business Meeting adjourned at 8:03PM.

Respectfully submitted,

6/30/2021

Tadd Anderson

Secretary, Boston Street Railway Association