

BSRA Business Meeting Minutes December 4, 2021

The December 4, 2021, Business Meeting was called to order at 7:36 PM by President Bradley Clarke via Zoom Video Conference.

President's Remarks:

1. Welcome to the December BSRA meeting.
 - This meeting will have a short business segment followed by an entertainment program. Tonight's presenter, George Chiasson, will show scenes from a midwestern trip in 2019, featuring Cleveland's RTA, the Detroit Q LRT line, Kenosha, CTA, and Pittsburgh light rail among others.
2. Next, a few announcements and our business items.
 - Renewals have been strong for FY 2022 and have included lots of donations to our 5706 and General Funds. Thanks for your continued support!
 - Bookstore sales have also done well. Place your orders early and soon!
 - The BSRA will have two tables at the upcoming Amherst Railway Society Show in West Springfield, Massachusetts on January 29 and 30, 2022. Covid cancelled the show last year, but now it's on again. This is the biggest show of its kind in the United States, and we're looking forward to seeing you there.
3. Next, to the business section.
 - Voting is limited to Regular Members.
 - Guests, Associate Members, Intermediate Members, and Subscribers do not vote in our polls to approve reports, new members, adjournment, and other business matters.
 - Non-member guests are always welcome, but please join us. Dues are a low \$25 per year for Regular or Intermediate Membership and include a RollSign subscription and other benefits. Please see our website, thebsra.org, to join or for subscriptions or associate member information.
4. The Secretary's report for the November Meeting, and the November Treasurer's report have been posted. We normally 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, November, 2021
(detailed report is available for download)

<i>General Fund</i>	
Income	\$7,059.79
Expenses	\$10,406.30
Cash on hand 11/30/2021	\$27,640.23

5706 Fund

Income	\$2,007.87
Expenses	\$8.57
Cash on hand 11/30/2021	\$70,224.98

Combined cash on hand 11/30/2021 \$97,865.21

- To date, 529 Members and Subscribers, or 80%, have renewed for 2022. Thank you!
- Donations and bookstore sales continue at very high levels. Thank you!
- Expenses to buy bookstore inventory are higher than normal, since we've been ordering items earlier to avoid supply chain delays.
- Since 1999, we've raised a total of \$440,376.77 for the 5706 Fund.

We had a very good month for November, with all sources of income — dues, donations, and bookstore sales — continuing at very high levels. It is normal for us to run a General Fund deficit in November, since we usually pay for printing and mailing an issue of Roll Sign during that month, and this year was no exception. We also had higher than normal inventory purchase costs, due to ordering books, calendars, and other items earlier than usual, in order to avoid supply chain issues in December.

We still have 129 Members and Subscribers who haven't yet renewed for 2022, and we encourage you to renew early so we don't have to continue mailing reminders. All checks received by November 20 have been deposited; but if you mailed your check after that date, it is still being processed. If you have a question about your renewal, you can enter it as a private message to me in the chat box, or email me at info@thebsra.org.

Lastly, I wish all of you a very happy holiday season and a prosperous new year. See you next year!

Publication Director's Report:

Mike Prescott read the following summary:

Sales have been very strong early in this Holiday season, initially from our Holiday Catalog and now coming in for our December Catalog. There were a number of new books in these two catalogs, as you see on your screen, as well as our full selection of 2022 railroad and traction calendars. You can view our full and up-to-date selection of new and older books on our website at thebsra.org/store Much like last year, we are bracing for potential shipping delays this holiday season. Delays not only affect the shipment of orders to our customers, but stock to our warehouse, so we strongly encourage anyone who would like to order books or other items for

the holiday season to place those orders as soon as possible. So far, things seem to have been operating relatively smoothly, however we can not guarantee delivery before Christmas.

Our volunteer warehouse manager, Ron Clough, has been putting in many long hours at our warehouse and at the Post Office to keep up with the high volume of orders this season. We thank him for his work, and appreciate in advance your patience and understanding in the event of delays in order processing or shipping. We appreciate your choice to shop from us, as the funds we take in from sales help keep us going year round. Thank you for your continued support! And finally, the annual Railroad Hobby Show at the Big E in West Springfield, MA is back for 2022, and we will once again have a booth at the show. The show is one of the best in the country, with a wide variety of modeling materials, model layouts, historic items and memorabilia, and a lot more; and we offer a large number of show specials at our booth on a wide variety of books and gift items, including used and rare books and older titles on clearance. The show runs January 29th & 30th, and our booth will be in the Better Living Center. Visit railroadhobbyshow.com for more information. We hope to see you there!

Director of Car Restoration Report:

- Brad Clarke reported that the 5706 contractor is nearing completion of his new shop building. The 5706 continually grows. Carbody work, next to be done, is on track for action.

***RollSign* Director's Report:**

Nick Tomkavage read the following summary:

The September/October 2021 Issue has been distributed digitally and by mail.

Director at Large reports: None.

Old Business: Meeting Link Distribution: The meeting notices will be posted on the BSRA Website on the day of the Monthly Business Meeting.

New Business:

The following applicants were voted on for Regular Membership: MARTIN J. ST. GEORGE of SOUTH BOSTON, MA (a Regular Member who has upgraded from Subscriber), LIAM M. MOORE of MEDFORD, MA, AUGUST BLAKE of SAUGUS, MA and TERRIANNE BOURGEOIS of WOBURN, MA. The Secretary cast a token ballot to accept the three new regular members and upgraded regular member as read.

Current events:

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

November 2021 MBTA Current Events

Green Line: New Amory St. and Babcock St. stations opened on B Line. Project is complete and off-peak bus replacement has ended. New signals are activated from Reservoir to Riverside on D Line with all work close to completion and planned shuttles will end after December 9.

Orange Line: Four more Orange Line CRRC cars, 1432/1433 and 1446/1447, have been accepted, increasing the accepted fleet to 46 cars. 14 unaccepted cars, up through 1459, undergoing testing. 01228/01229 have been retired because of a major propulsion failure, 14 #12 cars retired to date, 106 remain active.

Red Line: Work has begun to swap out the trucks on Red Line CRRC cars 1900-1905 with ones which have had the suspension system modified. MBTA says their target is to reintroduce the cars into service by the end of December. Cars 01816/01817, out of service since March 2004 after a fire in the control group, have been donated to Otis AFB for training. The cars have been fully stripped of all useable parts.

Commuter Rail: Rebuilt locomotives 1025, 1051, 1064 in testing. 18 units completed, 13 are in Erie with 8 remaining to send. The 13 F40s sold to G&U for parts have been scrapped and removed from Rochester MA. 1008 and 1013 remain and are for sale. The new Chelsea station has opened.

Bus: Bus 1208 returned from overhaul, 8 of 25 completed, 7 are at the rebuilder with 10 remaining to be sent.

Entertainment Report:

Lucius Chiaraviglio summarized the upcoming entertainment through April 2022.

Officers Present:

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

Adjournment:

The Business Meeting adjourned at 8:04 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Tadd Anderson
Secretary, Boston Street Railway Association
12/31/2021