

- **BSRA Annual and October Monthly Business Meeting Minutes  
October 1, 2022**

The October 1, 2022, Annual and Business Meeting was called to order at 7:31 PM by President Bradley Clarke via Zoom Video Conference. The Annual Meeting was combined with the Business Meeting in the interest of streamlining the business to be conducted.

**President's Remarks:**

- The Sixty-Third Annual Meeting. We have already posted the Secretary's combined Annual and Business Meeting report from Fiscal Year (FY) 2022. Due to the fiscal year ending yesterday, and the fact that the Treasurer's Annual Report depends on final information today, a non-business day, I will read the summary of the Preliminary Annual Report, and our Treasurer, Charles Bahne will supplement information regarding the FY 2022 preliminary Treasurer's Report if and as needed. The full version of the draft Treasurer's report is included with your usual downloads and will be the last page in the Annual report, which we will release as a hard copy with the next issue of *RollSign*. Because the report is preliminary, instead of requesting a vote to approve the preliminary FY2022 Annual Report, I will ask for a vote to make a vote on the final version of the FY2022 Annual Report at the November business meeting.

**2022 Annual Report Summary**

- The past year, fiscal 2022, has been a busy one for the Boston Street Railway Association. The highlight was a very successful trackless trolley fantrip held on February 19, 2022. Another success was our return to the annual Amherst Railway Society show at the Big E in West Springfield, Massachusetts.
- To commemorate the rapidly approaching abandonment of the Cambridge-Belmont-Watertown trackless trolley network on March 12, 2022, we arranged a fantrip with the MBTA. The T agreed to let us use Neoplan trackless 4104 and Neoplan dual-mode 1105 for the trip. The dual mode operates as a trackless trolley between South Station and Silver Line Way.
- Response to our announcement was immediate and resulted in 110 attendees. We covered the entire system, including Watertown Carhouse, where the remaining trolley bus loop wire had long been out of service. We also made several trips on the Huron Avenue line, which had been converted to bus operation in 2013, but the overhead wire had been kept as a bypass route and for pull-in and pull-out coaches as recently as the summer of 2021.
- The fantrip received rave reviews and the web was flooded with video footage from the many attendees. We offer our most sincere appreciation to the MBTA and its employees who volunteered their time to make this unusual and interesting trip possible.
- The Amherst Railway Society show was held in West Springfield on January 28 and 30, 2022. The Society had cancelled the 2021 show in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, so we were unsure about what attendance would be, given continuing restrictions. Adding to this uncertainty, a powerful nor'easter threatened for the weekend. Surprisingly,

throughout the storm, an unexpectedly large group of people showed up, and our two show tables had great sales!

- Our monthly meetings have settled into a routine involving a lot of preparation. Running a successful meeting requires pre-meeting coordination and document preparation to a much greater extent than the in-person meetings of the past. The Zoom software that we use for our meetings has also changed, and with it the need to make changes on the fly, even during the meetings, since Zoom updates sometimes come without warning.
- The entertainment segment of our monthly business meetings requires a rehearsal the week before and a pre-meeting update with the presenters. Issues with Zoom software, access to content stored on the Internet, and issues with presenter software are typically addressed and resolved in these sessions.
- We are asked often if we intend to resume physical meetings. The answer is yes, and eventually, but not on a monthly schedule. The logistics of essentially televising our meetings via zoom and combining this process with the logistics of entertainment presentations will require additional staff training and possibly new equipment before we can move forward. Another consideration is a suitable meeting location which is centralized and affordable. Experience has shown that finding the right place can be difficult.
- We believe that the electronic distribution of RollSign has been satisfactorily accomplished. While we continue to provide our members with both the electronic and print versions, we hope to eventually accommodate requests for receipt of the electronic version only. As we have said before, doing so is not as simple as it sounds, since we must consider how this will affect our bookkeeping and printing and distribution costs of the hard copy.
- Speaking of RollSign, we have had a significant increase in the cost of printing the hard copy and may require a rethink of how we handle this added burden moving forward. Increases in USPS costs and mail delivery reliability questions make how we distribute RollSign even more important.
- Our Type 5 car restoration project has resumed, following a long-time hiatus involving the move from Connecticut to Virginia and the construction period for our contractor's new shop, itself delayed by Covid-related construction restrictions, supply-chain delays, and worker availability.
- Financially, the Association had a small deficit for the year, expenses exceeding income by \$850. RollSign hard copy printing costs mentioned above, increases in postage, and printing stationery are largely responsible. Your continuing donations to the General Fund are of enormous help in offsetting these inflationary increases and we thank you for your support.
- Our plans with the new Green Line book in the Streetcar Lines of the Hub series were derailed this year by several unrelated and unforeseen issues that required unplanned volunteer time. Barring further contingencies, we hope to produce this book in FY 2023.
- The BSRA remains a valuable information asset, continuing our educational and historical outreach to our members and the public through our website and direct communications by email and regular mail. We expect considerable progress on Type 5

No. 5706 in FY 2023 as well. Please keep us in mind for future support and for bequests so that we can maintain our current path.

### **Publications Report Summary**

- In FY2022, the BSRA Publications Department produced five full Publications Catalogs, deployed multiple emails, and maintained our online store, all of which again produced many sales year-round. Tremendous thanks are again due our volunteer Warehouse Manager Ron Clough, who braves heat, cold, and the Post Office to fill customers' orders and maintain our stock. We could not do what we do without his tireless efforts. We also appreciate all your orders throughout the year, large and small, since proceeds from sales help keep the Association rolling year-round.

### **RollSign Director Report Summary**

- Nick Tomkavage has left us as RollSign Director and editor after many years in these positions. We are deeply grateful to Nick for overseeing so many issues of RollSign and express our deepest and most sincere appreciation to him for his efforts.
- The Board of Directors has nominated Clark Frazier for RollSign Director. Clark is a long-time member known for his photographic prowess and memorable entertainment presentations. We believe that Clark, with his strong information technology background and extensive business experience will significantly contribute to our board and will make an excellent officer.
- In FY 2022, we produced seven issues of RollSign: July-August, September-October, and November-December of 2021, and January-February, March-April, May-June, and July-August of 2022. At the start of summer, we absorbed a significant inflation-related increase in the cost of printing paper, and we were able to address this by reducing the number of printed copies. This cannot continue indefinitely, so in the future we may have to consider going to all-digital editions, or increasing dues, neither of which we feel is desirable.

### **Vice-President Report Summary**

- During FY 2022, the Vice President monitored the mailbox on the Association's website, responding to requests directly and forwarding other inquiries to appropriate officers. He provided written responses to miscellaneous correspondence.
- This office also supported our other officers and directors by proof-reading reports and drafts and reviewing financial statements. This work includes the annual IRS form 990, and Massachusetts Attorney General office form PC (Public Charities) which is a prerequisite for fund-raising. The Vice-President also filed our Annual Corporate report to the Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

### **Secretary's Report Summary**

- The Secretary's office maintains the minutes of the monthly business meetings and the quarterly directors' meetings. This office also processes membership renewals and manages the annual election of officers and directors.
- Our mailing list now numbers 699. Since September 30, 2021, we have added 38 new paid members and subscribers; we lost 41 members and subscribers due to attrition, including 7 known deceased, 1 who resigned, and 33 who did not renew, for a net loss of 3 members and subscribers.

### **Car Restoration Director Report Summary – 5706 Fund**

- Our Boston Type 5 car No. 5706 restoration is rolling along. The car has been moved into our contractors' shop and the polyethylene wrap [normally used for seasonal boat storage and now frequently for transit vehicles] has been removed. The car was shipped with most of the interior parts inside the car body, including seats and pedestals, window frames and related mounting materials, lighting fixtures, and door engines to name a few. A considerable amount of time has been spent clearing this equipment out to allow interior work to begin.
- As of this writing, the new canvas roof has been primed. MTA grey paint will follow shortly once the primer has cured. The red roof marker lights on each end have been cleaned for installation. All of the ten roof ventilators have been cleaned and straightened and they soon will be painted and installed.
- As of the end of September, we have raised \$456,096 for 5706. This amount includes a \$3500 grant from the Mass Bay RRE for general support. This grant and the generosity of our members has allowed this project to move forward, and we deeply appreciate the support of all contributors to the 5706 Fund. We also continue to await the balance of a large bequest, which is currently going through probate before we can receive it. We expect financial support to rise for the 5706 restoration as it nears the end, likely in 2024-2025.

**Entertainment Chair Report Summary**

- Lucius Chiaraviglio continued as Entertainment Chair in FY 2022, seeking presentations, handling show rehearsals and preparation, and producing content for the Entertainment Calendar. This work has become more challenging with online meetings.
- The Boston Street Railway Association would like to extend its sincere thanks to all who presented shows at our 2021-2022 meetings, and in years past as well. Producing the shows that we provide to our members and friends at our monthly business meetings is no small task and requires considerable effort from both the presenters and the BSRA.

**Treasurer's Fiscal Year 2022 Report:**

Charlie Bahne read the Treasurer's Fiscal Year 2022 Annual Report

Boston Street Railway Association, Inc.  
 Summary Treasurer's Report, Fiscal Year 2022  
*PRELIMINARY REPORT THROUGH 9/29/2022*  
 (Detailed report is available for download)

*General Fund*

Income .....	\$56,907.54
Expenses .....	\$57,890.71
(Deficit) .....	(\$983.17)
<i>Cash on hand 9/29/2022</i> .....	<i>\$13,780.09</i>

*5706 Fund*

Income .....	\$23,666.78
Expenses .....	\$8,974.03
Surplus .....	\$14,692.75
<i>Cash on hand 9/29/2022</i> .....	<i>\$79,151.27</i>

Combined cash on hand 9/29/2022 ..... \$92,931.36

- Many thanks to our Members and friends, who this year gave a total of \$38,656 to the Association. *We appreciate your generosity!*
- Bookstore sales were slightly lower this year; but inventory costs were also reduced, and the net impact on our bottom line was much more positive.
- Warehouse rent increases, postage increases, and paper cost increases have all affected our bottom line over the year.

**Secretary's Election Report:**

Tadd Anderson read the results of the Fiscal Year 2023 Election which are as follows:

For President: Bradley H. Clarke received 155 votes  
There were 2 blanks

For Vice-President: Thomas Athearn received 152 votes  
Justin Grizey received 1 vote  
There were 4 blanks

For Treasurer: Charles Bahne Jr received 153 votes  
George Chiasson received 1 vote  
There were 3 blanks

For Secretary: Thaddeus S. Anderson received 152 votes  
Corey Connors-Reynolds received 1 vote  
There were 4 blanks

For Librarian: James E. Gately received 151 votes  
Roger Tobin received 2 votes  
Thomas Connolly received 1 vote  
There were 3 blanks

For Director of Car Restoration: David F. Harling received 153 votes  
There were 4 blanks

For Publications Director: Michael R. Prescott received 154 votes  
There were 3 blanks

For *RollSign* Director: Clark Frazier received 153 votes  
Nicholas Tomkavage received 1 vote  
Jonathan Belcher received 1 vote  
Lucius Chiaraviglio received 1 vote  
There was 1 blank

For Directors at Large 1: Jonathan Belcher received 155 votes  
There were 2 blanks

For Director at Large 2: Kenneth Zwirble received 145 votes  
Daniel Cohen received 1 vote  
Edward Bangs received 1 vote  
Peter Inawava received 1 vote  
There were 9 blanks

**The election results ended the annual meeting, and we then moved on to the October Business Meeting.**

**Treasurer’s September 2022 Monthly Report:**

<i>General Fund</i>	
Income .....	\$425.44
Expenses .....	\$4,998.90
Cash on hand 9/29/2022 .....	\$13,780.09
<i>5706 Fund</i>	
Income .....	\$407.58
Expenses .....	\$4,859.22
Cash on hand 9/29/2022 .....	\$79,151.27
Combined cash on hand 9/29/2022 .....	\$92,931.36

- Approximately 300 renewal checks have been received and will be deposited Monday, October 3. Processing of online renewal requests will begin on or about Wednesday, October 5.
- General Fund expenses for the month included printing the May/June *RollSign* issue; postage and envelopes for renewal notices and the Annual Meeting notice; and registration fees for next January’s Amherst Railway Society show.
- Since 1999, we’ve raised a total of \$456,095.93 for the 5706 Fund.

**Publication Director's Report:**

Mike Prescott read the following summary:

The Holiday Catalog will be included with the July/August Issue, and features a number of new items, some of which you see on screen now. (Discuss the new books). We are adding these items as they arrive in our warehouse, so keep checking our online store for the latest arrivals.

**Director of Car Restoration Report:**

The 5706 report was presented earlier in the Preliminary Annual Report for FY2022. The amount in the 5706 fund now totals \$79,152.

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

Mike Prescott read the following summary:

The July/August Issue was distributed digitally a few weeks ago; it features comprehensive coverage of the recent Orange Line shutdown, the FTA's report on the MBTA, and more. It is currently at the printer, and it should be mailed in the coming weeks.

**Director at Large reports:** None.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:**

The following is a list new and upgrading members:

NATHAN CORAM, DRACUT, MA *New Regular Member*  
CONOR O'LEARY, MEDFORD, MA *New Intermediate Member*  
WILLIAM E. PIPER, CHELSEA, MA *New Regular Member*  
BRUCE W. JAYNE, PEARL CITY, HI *Regular Member (upgrading from Associate)*  
WILLIAM TABLER, LOCUST VALLEY, NY *Regular Member (upgrading from Associate)*

A motion was made to have the Secretary cast a token ballot to accept the two new Regular Members, one new Intermediate Member and two Associate Members who upgraded to Regular Membership.

**Current events:**

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

October 2022 MBTA Current Events

**Green Line:** The D Line shut-down started, first of three 9-day shut-downs for track and signal work. Heath St. service resumed operating to Union, while some Riverside service was extended to Union before the temporary shut-down of D Line. Some extra C line service is operating to Union until Riverside service resumes. Operator training has started on Medford Hillside branch, but full simulated service has not started yet. When this starts, Heath St. service will run in service to Lechmere and then without passengers to Tufts. The target is now to begin revenue service in late November.

**Orange Line:** Full Orange Line shutdown has completed with service having resumed on September 19. Some tie and track work remains between Sullivan and Community College and speed restrictions remain in place until that is completed during overnight work periods. Peak service is still operating with Saturday service levels which only require 60 cars (10 sets). All revenue service is being provide with CRRC cars. Improved peak frequencies are expected when

the winter schedule starts, and some Hawker sets should appear during rush-hour when that starts. Fleet remains at 74 active CRRC cars with two more in testing and 1400/1401 still out of service with derailment damage. There are 66 operable Hawkets out of the original fleet of 120. Costello Dismantling has started removing the first group of 30 Hawkets for scrapping. The first pair removed, 01238/39, had operated as late as August 19, the next 20 cars removed should be from the group that has already been out of service for an extended period.

**Commuter Rail:** Locomotive rebuilding: 24 units completed, 11 are at Erie with 4 remaining to send. 1030 has been removed from service to prepare to ship out. 1036, 1071, and 1072 will be the next to go. GP40MC 1125, overhauled in Rochester Ma and painted MassDOT blue, has entered revenue service. -The two long stored coaches temporarily removed for a film shoot (646 and 1621) have returned to MBTA property. They are now stored off of their trucks at BET and are expected to be scrapped soon. -The first four of the 83 new Rotem cars on order have begun final acceptance testing and may enter service later in the fall. Lynn Station will close on October 1 to tear down the parking garage and build a new station. A temporary shuttle bus will operate to Swampscott.

**Bus:** New Flyer Bus 1213 returned from overhaul with 18 of 25 completed and 7 are at the rebuilder. Eleven 1400 series buses of 60 total are now at Midwest Bus for overhaul.

### **Entertainment Report:**

Lucius Chiaraviglio summarized the upcoming entertainment through April 2023.

### **Officers Present:**

Officers, Directors, and Committee Chairs present included Bradley Clarke, Tom Athearn, Charlie Bahne, Jonathan Belcher, Ken Zwirble, Tadd Anderson, Jim Gately, Ron Clough, Clark Frazier, Mike Prescott, and Lucius Chiaraviglio.

### **Adjournment:**

The Annual and Business Meetings adjourned at 8:22PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tadd Anderson  
Secretary, Boston Street Railway Association  
10/30/2022