

BSRA Business Meeting Minutes April 1, 2023

The April 1, 2023, Business Meeting was called to order at 7:39 PM by President Bradley Clarke via Zoom Video Conference.

President's Remarks:

1. Welcome, all, to the April BSRA meeting.
 - It's great to see you here as always!
 - Following our business meeting, Nathan Ives will take us for an update of recent history of the MBTA Grand Junction Branch, which he has dubbed "An Unknown Boston Transit Lifeline. Nathan's news photos have graced the pages of RollSign many times in past years including shots of the Grand Junction, so we're all looking forward to his presentation.
2. Announcements and the Business Meeting.
 - Please remember that only Regular Members vote, make and second motions, and participate in the conduct of BSRA official business.
 - Non-members are welcome to attend our meetings, but please remember that you are guests, and we ask to conduct yourselves accordingly. However, we urge you to join us, and our website, thebsra.org, has membership information and an application.

The Secretary's minutes for the March Meeting, and the March Treasurer's report have been posted.

- Normally, we waive the reading of the Secretary's minutes, but our Treasurer reads a summary of the Treasurer's Monthly Report. The full version is posted for those who want more detail.
- Again, have a look at the home page of thebsra.org. We have posted a new horsecar history from Tom Humphrey with a forward by Bill Lieberman. It's a free download. Enjoy!
- I've been asked by Rich Allman at the East Penn Traction Club to pass the word that the East Penn Traction Meet will be held at the AgriPlex in Allentown PA Friday & Saturday May 19&20, 2023, with a SEPTA fan trip on Sunday May 21, 2023 sponsored by Friends of Philadelphia. Info is available at eastpenn.org. Speaking personally, this has always been an enjoyable gathering, and I recommend it highly.

Treasurer's Report:

Charlie Bahne read the Treasurer's Report shown below:

Boston Street Railway Association, Inc.
Summary Treasurer's Report, March 2023
(detailed report is available for download)

General Fund

Income	\$2,149.63
Expenses	\$2,134.57
Cash on hand 3/31/2023	\$25,752.29

5706 Fund

Income	\$1,486.96
Expenses	\$8,848.02
Cash on hand 3/31/2023	\$91,558.53

Combined cash on hand 3/31/2023 \$117,310.82

- March was another quiet month for us financially.
- We still have 80 Members and Subscribers who haven't renewed.
Unless you renew, you will not receive any more mailings.
- If you wish to renew online; send an email to INFO@thebsra.org.
- Since 1999, we've raised a total of \$492,056.87 for the 5706 Fund.

Publication Director's Report:

Brad Clarke read the following report in the absence of Mike Prescott:

- Since last month, we produced the Early Spring 2023 Publications Catalog, which contains several new items that you see on screen, including a 2023 Edition of the New England Rail Map and a new book from the Friends of Bedford Depot Park, "Minuteman Railroad: The B&M's Lexington Branch," which is already proving to be quite popular. Our online store also has a number of 2023 Calendars still available, now at a steep discount for the remaining copies on hand.

Director of Car Restoration Report:

Brad Clarke read the following report:

- We now have \$91,558 in the 5706 Fund.
- We are pleased to announce a grant by the Mass Bay RRE for labor on the 5706 Restoration Project for \$4,000. The Mass Bay RRE has been a strong supporter of this project for many years, and we are deeply grateful to them for their continued support.
- Looking ahead, we expect the installation of the vestibule floors in the near future, and the first topcoats of traction orange to the sides of the car and cream around the window

areas. This will be followed by installation of new safety-glass equipped safety glass window sash, and the new doors.

- This project continues to forge ahead with your constant and deeply appreciated support! Thank you!
- Please contribute if you haven't done so already!
- To those of you who have not renewed, please do so. Your donations to the 5706 Fund and General Fund, which we often receive with renewals, are much appreciated.

RollSign Director's Report:

Clark Frazier read the following report:

- The November/December 2022 Issue has been printed and mailed and should be in your hands soon, if not already. The January/February 2023 Inventory Issue is close to completion and should be distributed before the May business meeting.

Director at Large reports: None.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Tadd Anderson read the names of the following applicants for Regular Membership:

ERIC TALBOT, CHICAGO, IL *Rejoining as a Regular Member*

RICHARD HUSTVEDT, SOMERVILLE, MA *New Regular Member*

BOBBY DOYLE, WEYMOUTH, MA *New Regular Member*

GABY GERMANOS, BOSTON, MA *New Regular Member*

Current events:

Jonathan Belcher read the following report of activity on the MBTA in March 2023:

Orange Line: CRRC fleet: 1478/1479, 1480/1481 in testing, 76 active cars. No change in Hawker fleet since last update, 46 operable cars still waiting on decision to operate Hawkers in rush hour. Both inspections of cars and scrapping of cars have been paused.

Green Line: Car 3862, the least damaged car from 2021 collision on Commonwealth Ave., has undergone a structural review and is now being repaired.

Commuter Rail: Locomotive rebuilding: 25 units completed, 1053 in service 10 are at Erie, 1071 shipped but requires work to be accepted by CSX, 1072 is last non-rebuilt unit in service. - 28 of the 83 new Rotems on order have been delivered, first four, 1828, 1829, 847, 848 accepted. These will provide additional equipment required for New Bedford/Fall River service and will replace the 1600 and remaining 1500 series cab cars. Cars 646 and 1621, which were used as movie production props, were scrapped at BET

Bus: 1200 series overhaul: 23 of 25 completed, 2 at the rebuilder. Eleven 1400 series busses of 60 total are now at Midwest Bus for overhaul. 31 of 45 new 1300 series busses are now accepted and in service. Last 8 busses that have luggage racks for SL1 service will be last delivered in April (slight delay from previous estimate). 21 1100 series dual-modes have been retired, looks like last 11 (1119-1120, 1122-1127, 1130-1132) will stay in SL1 service until the last of the 1300s arrive and are accepted by mid-April. No specific date yet for end of using the wires in the transitway. Only 3 of 64 remaining Neoplan 0401-0593 busses remain active at Southampton, 0441, 0531, and 0567. March 28 was last day any ran at Fellsway. Occasionally used on Route 39 and will be removed from service in next few weeks. Stored Neoplans, both 40-ft diesels and dual-modes, are being stored at Wellington, awaiting sale for scrap. Scrapper has been removing 4100 series trackless from Everett. Deliveries of 160 3200-3359 series busses from New Flyer has started, first 10 are at Readville contractor facility being set up. Contract allows for 80 busses to be delivered per year in 2023 and 2024, but New Flyer may be able to deliver all 160 this year. Original plan was to send to Cabot which in turn would allow 2016 busses to be transferred to Lynn, Albany, and Fellsway. These new busses may instead be assigned directly to those garages. Will replace the 2006 built 0600-0754 series and allow some 2008-built 0755- 0910 series busses to be placed in contingency fleet. 2008 series busses will remain at Quincy garage until new garage is built. Bus 0666 converted to mobile job hiring center. DATTCO plans on discontinuing remaining Boston-New Bedford service in April unless state is willing to subsidize service until end of year when rail service is planned to start.

Entertainment Report:

Lucius Chiaraviglio summarized the upcoming entertainment through August 2023.

Officers Present:

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

Adjournment:

The Business Meeting adjourned at 8:13 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Tadd Anderson
Secretary, Boston Street Railway Association
4/08/2023