

BSRA Business Meeting Minutes January 6, 2024

The January 6, 2024, Business Meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by President Bradley Clarke via Zoom Video Conference.

1. President's Remarks:

- Welcome to the January meeting of the BSRA. This evening Mike Prescott is overseeing the Zoom meeting software management. Thank you very much, Mike, on behalf of all of us.
- Tonight's entertainment is by Byron Nesh, one of our veteran presenters, who will share his favorite images, mixing old and new. Byron will show systemwide photos of MBTA rapid transit lines, buses, commuter rail, and regional buses, followed by some museum photos, all in all, an interesting and enjoyable mix.

2. Announcements and the Business Meeting.

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

We normally waive the reading of the Secretary's minutes, but our Treasurer reads the Treasurer's Monthly Report summary. The full version is also posted.

- Please renew your membership. Our new, simplified website online renewal page, designed by Mike Prescott, is working well. You have all received your renewal notices, which were delayed this year to get the new system online. Paying by check is fine, but for ease of use, you may want to try the new system.

3. Treasurer's Report:

- Charlie Bahne read the Treasurer's Summary Report shown below:

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

General Fund

Income	\$9,150.63
Expenses	\$4,192.10
Cash on hand 12/31/2023	\$29,198.29

5706 Fund

Income	\$5,337.55
Expenses	\$607.93
Cash on hand 12/31/2023	\$93,658.49

Combined cash on hand 12/31/2023 \$122,856.78

- To date, 55 Members and friends have responded to our Holiday Fund Appeal letter, donating a total of \$6,964. In addition, 186 Members have donated a total of \$13,097 with their renewals. *Thank you!*
- To date, over 400 Members have renewed, with 148 renewing online. But nearly 200 Members haven't yet responded to our renewal notice. *The second notice should go out later this month.*
- Our new web portal, www.thebsra.org/renew, has proven popular and easy to use.
 - Since 1999, we've raised a total of \$514,898.00 for the 5706 Fund.

4. **Publication Director's Report:**

- Mike Prescott reported that the holiday catalog with new calendars and books has done well and is still active, so please take advantage of it. All sales go directly to our bottom line, and we thank you for your support.

5. **Director of Car Restoration Report:**

Brad Clarke read the following report:

The 5706 Fund now totals \$93,658.

Donations continue to come into the 5706 Fund and the General Fund with your renewals and from your responses to our Annual Fund Drive. Your 5706 fund donations have kept the work going, and with the increased activity of our contractor, your help is more welcome than ever.

We have now raised \$514,898 for our Type 5.

Your response to our holiday fundraiser has been outstanding, and we deeply appreciate the \$5700 in your generous donations.

We foresee the project's completion sometime in 2025. Our contractor billed us \$12,273 for work done in December, so you can see that we will need your continued help more than ever to achieve our goals. We expect to complete the carbody in 2024, and in 2025 to be working on the trucks, motors, and controls.

Sometime in the late winter, probably in March, we will send out an additional fundraiser to keep the work on the car continuing smoothly. We expect by this time to have a great deal more to show, and we think that you will agree with us that your continuing support is producing excellent results.

6. **RollSign Director's Report:**

7. We are catching up with the back issues of RollSign. Ed Anderson has provided a two-issue article on the fascinating history of buses in Worcester, Massachusetts. This system was an early adopter of motor buses replacing street cars on light lines, but was also one of the last systems in Massachusetts, outside of Boston, to operate street cars, along with the Eastern Massachusetts Street Railway, and the Union Street Railway of New Bedford.

8. **Director at Large reports:** None

9. **Old Business:** None

10. **New Business: Applicants voted on for Intermediate and Regular Membership:**

PATRICK STANFORD, KENSINGTON, CT
Rejoining as a Regular Member

JOHN R. ROBERTSON, SIDNEY, ME
Rejoining as a Regular Member

BENNETT WAICKMAN, BRAINTREE, MA
Rejoining as an Intermediate Member

LIAM FRANCIS KENNEDY, CLEARWATER, FL
Rejoining as a Regular Member

11. **Current Events:**

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

Orange Line: CRRC fleet: 100 active cars in service. 1496/1497, 1500/1501, 1504/1505 accepted, 1498/1499 and 1502/1503 arrived for testing. Peak period is now scheduled for 14 trains (84 cars) although often only 13 are available.

Green Line: Service is suspended after 8:45 PM and for several weekends from North Station to Medford/Tufts and Union until January 25th for trackwork. Service is suspended January 3 to January 12 and January 16 to January 26, 2024, from North Station to Heath St., Kenmore, and Babcock Street.

Red Line: Total CRRC fleet remains 12 (1900-1911) accepted out of 252 ordered. 1912/1913 delivered, should be accepted soon. Service will be suspended from February 5th to February 13, 2024, between Alewife and Harvard.

Commuter Rail: Locomotive rebuilding: 26 units completed, 13 are at Erie. Erie strike has been settled; production should resume. 56 of the 83 new Rotems on order have been delivered, 36 accepted for service. Locomotive 1138, which was overhauled at Rochester MA, has been released for switcher service. The active 1600 fleet remains 16 cab cars and 19 former cab cars (35 total). Burned Budd RDC 6214 has been scrapped, sister car 6213 has had asbestos abatement completed and may be preserved as a static display. New interim Lynn station opened on December 18, 2023. Ashland station reopened on December 23.

Bus: Fifteen 1400 series busses of 60 total are now at Midwest Bus for overhaul. Three busses (1410, 1419, and 1426) have returned. Deliveries of 160 3200-3359 series busses from New Flyer continue, 100 are in service at Albany, 42 are active at Lynn, the remaining 18 have been delivered and are in testing. 8 of the 155 2006-built 0600-0754 series remain in service, all at Fellsway, another 4 are in storage. Costello Dismantling resumed removing stored busses. The last 13 0800 2007 built busses at Lynn were transferred to Albany as a contingency fleet, to be used if required on Southampton routes in winter conditions. It appears that the 15 3100 series at Lynn will be transferred to Fellsway to replace the final 2006 built busses.

12. **Entertainment Report:**

- Lucius Chiaraviglio summarized the upcoming entertainment through April 2024.

13. **Officers Present:**

- Officers, Directors, and Committee Chairs present included Bradley Clarke, Tom Athearn, Tadd Anderson, Charlie Bahne, Jonathan Belcher, Clark Frazier, James Gately and Lucius Chiaraviglio.

14. **Adjournment:**

- A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the Business Meeting and it passed. The Business Meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Tadd Anderson
Secretary, Boston Street Railway Association
1/15/2024