

TUCSON GARDEN RAILWAY SOCIETY  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
September 20, 2023  
Nelson Residence

Board Members Present: Glenn Mitchell, John Fennema, Claudia Nelson, Margaret Torres-Nelson, Charlie Weesner, Jerry Tulino, and Ann Winter briefly via teleconference

Approved minutes from June board meeting

Social Report – Ann Winter

- Ann needs guidance on a place for Christmas meeting
- The Depot is lined up for 11:15 next Wednesday

Treasurer's Report Summary – Margaret Torres-Nelson

All Acct Balance	\$ 20,304.16
YTD Income	\$ 710.00
YTD Expense	\$ 243.40

56 members, 6 honorary members – 40 paid for fiscal year starting July 1

- Move to “all electronic” for new member – electronic copy of bylaws, Jerry to hand badge to the new member at a meeting

VP Report – John Fennema

- Ocotillo Learning Center show is confirmed for Dec 21. Claudia will create a sign-up genius to register members to show kids layout. Thinking to run electric for the demo.
- Light the Night – Walk-a-thon event for cancer awareness is slated for Oct 21, 5-9 PM. Board concludes it's not critical exposure or engagement. Will present at Sept general meeting. “If we get four people interested, allow them to take the children's layout.”
- At national convention, John met Bob Northington (president of Central Arizona Model RR Club) who wants to
  - Form a G scale section in his club
  - Looking for clubs to pitch a 2028 national convention in Arizona – presumably centered in Phoenix.

Our board does not feel our club has enough members to support this idea.

- Speaking with Craig Anderson about collaborating with Gadsden Pacific. Seems Craig is pushing a “more intense partnership.” Board advocates waiting for new president at GP to settle down their directions and intentions before pursuing joint events.
- Preparing for the Gadsden Pacific swap meet – They're disorganized about who bought a table and where they'll be placed. John indicated that he will not be in town for the swap meet on November 12.

Newsletter Report – Claudia Nelson

- Thomas Preisner supplying articles. Still looking for other members to submit ideas.

Committee reports

- Maintenance
  - TBG shutdown for monsoon, now re-started
  - Dave at TCM retired. One visit for repair.
  - ABQ Bot Garden layout points out that the “Bachmann eggliner” drive now available fits the AAR Type B and Blomberg trucks of old AristoCraft 4-axle diesels. So we can fix these, now.
- Membership – The Wights joined over the summer

- Mentoring – talk about making a club meeting “work day” for Doris Brown’s layout around her pool deck?

#### Old business

- Multi-media cabinet discussion. 32 inch size. Margaret suggests she’ll help build protective cabinet with direction from her father. Not OK to store in the trailer. Put it in the storage unit we rent.
- Attracting new members
  - Get membership approval for “first year free” if you register at RITG or Pima County Fair.
  - Clinic topics – Ask at general meeting for clinic ideas.
  - Other meets to encourage more engagement? - Table this until Ann gets back to Tucson.
    - Mercado and light rail into town?
    - McCormick-Stillman RR park in Phoenix
- Clark’s and other’s materials sale? Club activity in support of selling member’s equipment is a step too far. Still have stainless track to give away.
- Memorial list and honorary members – Newsletter survey has missed several members, and we haven’t agreed on objective criteria for “how involved” a member should be for inclusion. Glenn proposes we suggest spouse of any active member who passes should be put to membership vote for honorary membership.

#### New Business Discussions

- County fair and Boy Scouts. Tom Fagan says Troop 157 volunteered to help set up the layout at the fair. They will also be running the trains on one weekend. Suggested they build a “Boy Scout Jamboree” module for the layout.
- Rillito Nursery is interested in doing “something.” Perhaps helping with a clinic on plant selection?
- We need a RITG “czar” who will off-load the planning and arrangement from our VP. Option to take fliers to the activities boards of RV parks around town?
  - Special for our 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary – give away raffle tickets for a Thomas set?

#### General meetings

Sept 23	Fennema
Oct 21	Mitchell
Nov 18	Kohlers
Dec 9	Christmas Party
Jan 20	Averill
Feb 24	Rincon West
Mar ??	RITG
Apr 13	Charmichael

Next board meeting – open depending on topics above

Next club meeting – September 23