

TUCSON GARDEN RAILWAY SOCIETY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
November 15, 2023
Nelson Residence

Board Members Present: Glenn Mitchell, John Fennema, Claudia Nelson, Margaret Torres Nelson, Ann Winters, Jim Miller, Charlie Weesner, Jerry Tulino

Called to order at 1 PM, approved minutes from October board meeting.

Treasurer's Report Summary – Margaret Torres Nelson

All Acct Balance	\$ 19,174.61
YTD Net	\$ -663.21 (mostly tires for trailers)

- 56 members, 6 of whom are honorary
- Pending expenditure for container train at fair – authorized up to \$2000

VP Report – John Fennema

- Southern Arizona Transportation Museum on Dec 16 for their Christmas open-house. The museum will be open 10 AM to 3 PM, but we should be there about 9 AM to set up.
- Ocotillo Learning Center Dec 21, 8:30 AM in library, need candy to hand out ~320 kids will visit.
- Rails in the Garden confirmed for March 2-3. Averills will display their layout, too. 11 layouts? Working to get a Thomas set, probably thru Upland Trains to raffle give-away.
- Idea for a “clinic” in the spring? – Charlie’s friend Genie will talk about “The History of Thomas the Tank Engine” at February meeting at Rincon West.
- Prepping for RITG – Need to go thru bags, especially free year membership and “do you want us to get back to you about joining?”

Newsletter Report – Claudia Nelson: getting more submissions, mostly pictures

Committee reports

- Membership & Website – prepping for RITG info
- Maintenance/Displays
 - 10 members helped at Rodeo Museum clean-up
 - TBG has run for 3 weeks with no maintenance
- Social Activities – lots of suggestions for Ann to arrange a field trip, possibly in January?

Old business

- TTO Swap Meet – sold everything. Probably knocked down before we reached visitors for the “open house” part of the event.
- Christmas Luncheon – from Costco: pizza, sodas and water, chips. From Jimmy Johns: sandwich options. Members to bring your own dessert. Rodeo Museum – perhaps among the wagons or outside of building? Claudia to put out notice & sign-up – We’ve only got 3.5 weeks!
- Bylaws change about honorary memberships – as worded by Claudia. Send a copy to Glenn & Jerry for incorporation and present at general meeting Saturday.
- TV from Clarks – Mitchell will purchase a soft-side case to store it.
- Repairing modules for county fair layout in the display hall after it’s set up. Make checklist of repairs after RITG.

New Business Discussions

- “Trains in the Garden with Dave” youtube channel sounds like a promotion for “professionally designed” layouts.
- Publicity for RITG:
 - Phil Pappas wants us to advertise in The Desert Leaf, paper across the foothills. The rates appear excessive at \$516 for 1/6 page B&W to reach 56,000 printed copies.
 - Fennema hopes to get Phil’s article re-published in Marana Style (also distributed in Oro Valley).
- Margaret wants to get a vinyl banner for tent like we had at TTO swap meet. Approved, with advice that when we put away the fair, we keep banners and such out of the trailer for access next year.
- Claudia has emailed Michael Levin at Port of Tucson about publicity/sponsoring a part of the fair layout where we put an intermodal facility.

Upcoming meetings

Nov 18	Kohlers
Dec 9	Christmas Party
Jan 20	Averill
Feb 17	Rincon West
Mar 2-3	RITG
Apr 13	Charmichael

Next board meeting – January 17, 1PM @ Nelson’s

Upcoming Activities

Dec 16	SATM Open House
Dec 21	Ocotillo Learning Center
Mar 2-3	Rails in the Garden
Apr 18-28	Pima County Fair