

TUCSON GARDEN RAILWAY SOCIETY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

February 14, 2023
Nelson Residence

Board Members Present:

John Fennema
Claudia Nelson
Margaret Torres Nelson
Jim Miller
Charlie Weesner
Jerry Tulino

John called the meeting to order at 1 PM, approved minutes from January board meeting.

Treasurer's Report Summary – Margaret Torres Nelson

All Acct Balance	\$ 16,845.04
YTD Net	\$ (2993.17)

- The board voted that we move our accounts to Vantage West Credit Union as rules for account charges have changed at BofA. If we keep a minimum of \$500 in the combined checking and savings accounts, the \$5/month fee is waived at Vantage. Margaret has an appointment to open the account on Feb 26. We will keep a balance in BofA until the Charles Ro order has been paid from the debit card. Leaving \$5000 or more in BofA checking will waive the fees until we close the account.
- The website and A Family Storage unit monthly charges need to get transferred to the new account..
- Unusual spending this month included liability insurance and RITG costs.
- Seven people have not paid dues for the current year.

VP Report – John Fennema

- Rails in the Garden March 2-3
 - Alexis with Arizona Daily Star interviewed Charlie this morning in preparation for the publicity article about RITG. A photographer will be scheduled “later.” She’s also due to visit Charmichael for an interview.
 - Claudia has put out Instagram posts and a PSA for KXCI to read.
 - Discussion about staffing indicates we think we have (just) enough at each layout.
- Pima County Fair
 - Need to activate sign-ups because we need to give the fair names for badges and passes by March 25th. Expect 3 PM – 9 PM daily. The only “field trip” day at this point is April 26th.
 - Plan to set up on March 30th. Layout to be in-place for maintenance for “a while” before we place buildings.
 - Discussed getting some fencing to separate the kids layout from the full modular layout and the rest of the space. Margaret will look for suitable option to enclose the kids area.
 - John has containers for the plants we will have setting off the layout.
- Botanical Garden install by Applied Imagination opens Mother’s Day.
 - They have agreed to have us meet in their facility for May 11, the day before. This is earlier than our usual monthly meetings

Newsletter Report – Claudia reports no issues.

Committee reports

- Membership & Website – 1261 emails, 601 have opened it and 193 clicked on the link to see our schedule..
- Maintenance/Displays
 - TBG layout – trying to minimize repairs. March 20 plan to remove. Expect “2-3 hours” for two people to remove this, trash the sheds. Throttle, electronics, cars & locos to the storage shed.
- Social Activities
 - Luncheon at Red Garter Wednesday
 - Xerocraft Tour – recap

Old business

- 2024 club elections – no candidates have stepped forward to fill President, Vice President positions. This morphs to “club dissolution” discussion under new business.
- Nominating lifetime members – publish these in the March newsletter for membership vote at the general meeting
 - Chuck Haight
 - Jane Dorgan

New Business Discussions

- Without people willing to stand as President, Vice President, discussed the dissolution of the group. Discussed delegating VP responsibilities to lighten the load – coordinating meetings, publicity, recruiting volunteers. We would need to sell or give away the equipment from the county fair layout (locomotives, cars, buildings, and trailers) as well as our money – presumably to another 501(c)3. Claudia suggested that she would take “VP to delegate RITG and Pima County Fair” if someone else takes the newsletter.

Upcoming meetings

Feb 17	Rincon West
Mar 16	Weesner
Apr 13	Charmichael
May 11	Tucson Botanical Gardens

Next board meeting – March 12, 1PM @ Nelson’s

Upcoming Activities

Feb 28	Lunch @ Red Garter
Mar 2-3	Rails in the Garden
Mar 30	Setup modular layout
Apr 18-28	Pima County Fair