

TUCSON GARDEN RAILWAY SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

January 15, 2025
Nelson Residence

Board Members Present:

Willis Fagg	John Fennema
Ron Koehler	Charlie Weesner
Claudia Nelson	Jerry Tulino
Ann Winter	Margaret Torres Nelson

Willis called the meeting to order at 1:03 PM with 8 board members. We approved minutes from the November board meeting. There was no board meeting in December.

Treasurer's Report Summary – Margaret Torres Nelson

- November expenses for the storage unit rental and printing cards for RITG.
- December expenses for the holiday party, as well as insurance for trailers and storage unit
- Motion that all money donated at RITG this year goes to our designated charity. This was passed by the board.

VP Report – Claudia Nelson

- Ocotillo Learning Center Christmas display was less organized but we had a good time.
- Holiday Express at Southern Arizona Transport Museum – lots of kids and a good location next to the line waiting to see Santa
- Upcoming display at Tucson Wagon and History Museum January 25
 - Need someone at the layout inside – last year it was Glenn
 - Plans to display Ron's LGB "wild west" set of cars and locomotive on the children's layout at our tent.
- 2025 Rails in the Garden
 - Haven't heard from Sally Jazinski who was lined up to be organizing the event.
 - Discussion about advertising – conclusion that we didn't get a big bump in attendance from paid advertising last year.
 - John to retrieve signs, packets from the storage shed.
 - Claudia to contact Tina from KGUN about getting a local interest slot on a TV news show
 - Ron has not found a contact for the toy swap meet to see about a table to hand out RITG cards the week before. (<https://azcollectorsmarket.wixsite.com/website>, tucsontoyshow@gmail.com) and we are not sure we would have anyone to staff a table if we arranged it.
 - Claudia is worried about enough volunteers.
 - Email reminder to RITG list last week of January
 - There was a motion, which passed, to allocate \$300 for a beginner set to be raffled. This was first mentioned as "at RITG" and then talk about the county fair. Willis suggested we table it to decide which in February.

Committee reports

- Membership – Jerry Tulino –
 - Free members from last year's RITG and Pima County Fair (PCF): From 18 who signed up, two people have attended meetings and interacted. A decision to drop from email list comes with dues for 25/26 year (due in June, cut from membership in September).
 - Proposed that we hand out business cards with a sticker "come to a meeting for a free year's membership." At the meeting, the candidate member could fill out the on-line

form for email address, etc. Members seemed favorable, though no specific motion to adopt this was brought forward.

- Ann promotes “a marketing plan” and volunteers to bring a draft marketing plan to the February board meeting.
- Website – Jerry Tulino – Margaret switched our payment from credit card to ACH as our host planned to tack a 4% credit card fee to our bill.
- Maintenance/Displays – Charlie Weesner
 - No activity at rodeo or Children’s Museum
 - Club still owns two locomotives that are not in use
 - Bachmann Connie with a stripped gear (We have the parts to repair it.)
 - Bachmann Shay – the value of which we don’t know because Charlie has not investigated metal vs plastic trucks on it.
- Social activities – Ann Winter
 - Luncheons are poorly attended. Ann suggests clinics and discussion notes that we have no one assigned to mentorship and helping new members.

Old Business

- nothing covered

New Business

- Thomas is bringing us equipment from ABTO – mostly Christmas-theme. Decided to store it in the upper part of the “children’s layout” trailer.
- Claudia notes that we have two bins of TGRS merchandise: shirts, pins, embroider decals. Maybe make these free to members at a meeting? Margaret was asked to update our inventory of sizes and what we’ve got.

Upcoming meetings

Jan 18	Club meeting at Willis Fagg’s layout – trains at 1PM, meeting at 2 PM
Jan 22	Lunch @ Red Garter
Feb 12	Board meeting @ Nelson’s 1PM