

AWL Meeting Agenda
February 11th, 2007
Brad Hemmerle's home

In attendance: Val, Brad, Doug, Paul, Darryl, Chris, Rob

- I. Treasurer's Report -- Paid USPS for PO Box. \$46.50 donated from White Elephant to AWL. \$526.66 total in bank.
- II. Superintendent Report -- Need to do radio tower. Little else to report at this time. Didn't seem to have many 110 cords in Allentown – Paul & Rob forgot their's – need to bring them.
- III. Recap of Reading Show – show seemed to go well, even with an abbreviated staff. Hotel costs may become prohibitive. An early start is imperative on Friday mornings for setup. Staying over on Friday is an excellent idea. Smooth show aside from some hiccups over some turnouts. David's modules were most impressive. Move in and out went very well – interesting facility – good potential. We need more UP panels.
- IV. Old Business –
 - A. Banner – Doug will get banner made – 5' wide x 18" high. Brad will check with his daughter about making some smaller banners. Brad will work on PVC frame for the banner. Shorter secondary banners will be obtained as possible.
 - B. Stanchions – are we ok with what we have? Do we need more? Good for now.
 - C. Issues with setup procedures/standards/module certification?
– Addition of y-cable standard – 'wire linked to the fat pin (front rail) of the CJ connector must be inserted into the 'Track A' slot of the booster.' Should help resolve some polarity issues – mark appropriate wire with a loop of tape.
 - D. Radio Tower(s) – some progress needs to be made. Does AWL purchase a receiver, or does Doug make one for his receiver? Do we need two with Meyer inactive? Val will bring his receiver to fill the need.
- V. New Business –
 - A. website needs major attention & updates! All members are expected to help Val.
 - B. Club cars – approval of design & production (on hold) of new car. Doug to send out PDF of car design for final approval.

- C. Video from Dennis Gander (HOTrack) – would like to add some clips to AWL website. DVD to be given to Doug for editing & posting. Val wanted a copy.
 - D. MUST make progress on modules – progress must be seen and bare modules are boring and don't hold public's interest (for the most part).
 - E. Turnouts – lack of polarity over turnouts is killing the sound locos. Need to find some alternative ways to power points. The tabs just don't get it done. Ideas to counter – Rob installed machines to carry polarity. Doug & Val suggested some stop-gap measures to prevent such an extreme measure – conductive grease and micro-switches.
 - F. Signals – efforts have begun to construct files for all modules for JMRI use. See Doug or Val for help in designing/constructing a file for your modules. Val suggested staying away from a CTC design for simplicity – approved.
 - G. 501©3 Effort – draft of Constitution and Bylaws for review. Need to continue these efforts – input is required by all. Brad kept copy for review.
 - H. Gatsme Support – any help we can provide for Gatsme & their acquisition of permanent space should be supported.
 - I. Hotel Costs – motion was passed for previous show, but \$300 per show exceeds our usual intake – we'll be bankrupt in no time. Motion approved to not allow hotel expenditures to exceed money taken in for show with a ceiling of \$300 regardless of intake.
 - J. Dues – do we want to explore dues for the membership? Motion approved for \$40/year dues retroactive to Jan. 1, 2007.
 - K. Staging – how can we accomplish a staging yard and/or reverse loop? Should we? Some discussion about 2' x 4' staging that could be attached to the junction module. The staging would, of course, need to be kept on the inside of the display for safety of the models.
- VI. Module Updates – list short & long term goals
- A. Chris – McKeesport – finish station. Cleanout dock is finished. Ballasting of connecting tracks is done. May start basic framework for new background building. Hopefully some detailing & vehicles around modules. Bridges – work on faux painting for canal and river. Finish bridge over canal. Start preliminary work on Tyler's Tools. New base for TT will include siding spur on one piece. Cut in base for wharf. May start some basic detailing of river & canal (prior to water pour). Piers will be concrete – will paint, detail and weather appropriately. Need to install DS54 and power up switch to Tyler's Siding. Now have LocoBuffer to help with DS54 programming. I would like some corners to start working on. Have very future plans of a junction module
 - B. Doug – ballast, ballast and more ballast. Virtually the whole yard, Springfield branch and corners are ballasted. Need more UP panels. Discussed possibility of 5' and 6' corners.

- C. Val – Wiring all of his sidings so they stay hot for sound. Working on layout for JMRI panel – non-CTC.
 - D. Paul – minor progress on viaduct. Spurred some discussion about larger corners to better accommodate longer equipment. Met little resistance. Doug suggested scaling up his 1/8 turn corners to 5’ and 6’ corner modules.
 - E. David – working on 2 6-foot lead in modules for the terminal and some behind the backdrop staging.
 - F. Brad – ballast and detail and building and people.
 - G. Charlie – not present.
 - H. Rob – working on the switch machines. Working on DS 64 to power and control the switch machines. A BDL 64 and SE8C are being installed. Wow!
 - I. Darryl – needs modules – continue to badger Doug. Does have buildings constructed.
 - J. Bill H. – not present.
- VII. Future Module Displays
- A. Fort Washington – no word yet on new venue
 - B. Harford Setup Feb. 24 & 25 – testbed for future layout – no money, just for fun. Need to know this evening if interested. Setup Sat. at 7:30am. Break down Sunday afternoon. Brad may be setting up – anyone else? Also possible to go to layout to operate.
 - C. Reading – ECHS at end of March – Do we want in? RMMR is interested in joining us to some extent. Show is Fri, Sat, & Sun. Setup on Thurs. Website states that space is at a premium (smokescreen?) need to move quickly. Group decided against this show at this time.
 - D. Timonium – some preliminary discussions have taken place with MARRS and Harford – both have expressed interest in a joint display in August with AWL. Update this week – Paul Jablonski is no longer the regional manager for CIA. Frank Hicks is the man now. Space for the August show is VERY limited. 20’ x 60’. Dick figures each group could contribute 2-6 modules. Jury still out on this. Will review in June.
 - E. Edison – possible joint setup with HOTrack is possible. Dates would have to be explored. March 17 & 18; August 11 & 12
 - F. Somerset – dates?
 - G. Allentown – Paul reports the Allentown Expo Center is open under new management. We will need to keep an eye out for shows at this venue in the future.
 - H. Other areas – where else can we setup? Gatsme? Mall? Air show? Think outside of the box!