



NH Railroad Revitalization Association

April 26, 2010

Tonight's meeting was called to order by President Peter Griffin at 7:00 PM at the Health and Safety Council in Concord.

Attendees:

Name	Town
Peter Griffin	Windham, NH
Tom Noel	New Boston, NH
Bill Remington	Concord, NH
Steve Flanders	Weare, NH
Jim Bull	Windham, NH
Lenny McGee	Manchester, NH

Name	Town
Winthrop Buswell	Laconia, NH
Steve Piper	Dover, NH
Tom Manning	Concord, NH
Sam Langley	Boscowen, NH
Gary Seneschal	Allenstown, NH
Gary Kerr	Chichester, NH

March Minutes

The March 22, 2010 meeting minutes were accepted as written.

Treasurer's Report

Steve Flanders reported the organization's account balance and stated he paid just one expense of \$70 for PO box rental.

Marketing

Jim Bull reported on the Worcester trade show. He deemed it a very professional event, but solely attended by industry and trade people. He felt NHRRA was "preaching to the choir". He received maps of freight and Amtrak routes in MA and ME. Lenny looked into other business and development trade shows and found they charge fees of \$350 plus entry fees for each person attending. It was decided NHRRA would not enter into this expense.

Jim is still trying to find a printer that would manufacture window decals for under \$5. Also the current brochure needs to be updated with information on current initiatives and photos. Steve Piper will e-mail the former version to Jim for review and comment.

Gary Kerr asked again about distributing membership cards when people sign up or renew their memberships. Bill Remington will look for existing cards that were made up years ago.

NHRTA

Tom Noel reported that there have been two meetings over the past month. Last Friday they discussed the status of the \$115m allocated for planning from new federal money. NHRTA and NHDOT are jointly applying for \$3.5m of this for the NH Capitol Corridor. The application must be submitted by May 15 with decisions following within two months. The NHRTA has reason to be optimistic. A 20% match will be required.

The NHRTA was intending to vote on both the Economic Impact Study performed by (TranSystems) and a white paper, but there were too few for a quorum.

The Town of Plaistow has submitted a \$7m application for extending commuter rail service up from Haverhill. Another \$7.5m will be needed to purchase additional equipment for the MBTA's 3 most popular trains on this route.

NHDOT has prepared contract documents to enable them to put out Requests For Proposals to develop the state's next rail plan. It's anticipated that it will take 9-15 months to complete.

Mike Izbicki visited the railroad bridge in Enfield, NH where road traffic clearance underneath is restricted. He recommends raising the bridge 4 feet to provide the added clearance needed, but area residents fear raising the structure would impact their currently enjoyed view of the lake.

There was some discussion on a draft Memorandum Of Understanding between the NHRTA and the NHDOT setting out respective responsibilities. It's expected this will get more attention at the next meeting.

Other Business

- Steve Piper reported that the Downeaster's ridership continues to be steady. Many trains are sold out when Bruins, Celtics or Red Sox are playing at home.
- Jim Bull looked into wholesale pricing for the purchase of a Wi-Fit system for the Veterans Hospital, but found that there was no real advantage over purchasing a unit at a big box retailer. Peter will ask George's wife again if she feels this would be an appropriate gesture.
- Jim suggested organizing another forum (similar to the Saint Anselm one) in the Nashua area to help establish critical mass. Perhaps it could be coordinated with NHRTA and the Manchester and Nashua Chambers. Bill suggested maybe holding another up on the northern end in the Lebanon area too.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM

Next meeting: Monday, May 17, 2010 at 7 PM
 Safety & Health Council
 57 Regional Drive, Concord

Minutes by: Stephen R. Piper, Secretary