



NH Railroad Revitalization Association

October 25, 2010

Tonight's meeting was called to order by President Peter Griffin at 7:05 PM at the Health and Safety Council in Concord.

Attendees:

Name	Town
Peter Griffin	Windham, NH
Tom Noel	New Boston, NH
Lenny McGee	Manchester, NH
Gary Kerr	Chichester, NH
Sam Langley	Boscowen, NH
Craig Manmar	Hooksett, NH

Name	Town
Steve Flanders	Weare, NH
Steve Piper	Dover, NH
Tom Manning	Concord, NH
Gary Seneschal	Allenstown, NH
Kelton Garfield	Concord, NH

August Minutes

The August 23, 2010 meeting minutes were accepted as written.

Treasurer's Report

Steve Flanders reported the organization's account balance and stated that \$75 was paid out to the NHDOJ and \$27 for the 5-year state registration. \$24 in dues was received at tonight's meeting.

NH Capitol Corridor

The NH Capitol Corridor just received \$2.24 million from the FRA for planning and an environmental impact study. \$1.9 million has also been requested from the FTA.

Downeaster Update

Another record ridership was reported for the FY 2010, which ended Sept 30. The expansion to Brunswick is on target and scheduled to be completed by the end of 2011. There is an issue with track joint bar nuts, whereby the contract requires all materials for the project to be manufactured in the US, but there are not enough square nuts to complete the work. There are plenty of hex nuts available, but they don't conform to Pan-Am's equipment, so new nuts will need to be purchased. If the US requirement stands, the nuts will have a long manufacture lead time and will cost approximately \$18 each. NEEPR is investigating purchase options from other railroads and has also requested a waiver to keep the project on time and within budget. Joints are only required temporarily at the butts of the continuously welded rail elements until field welding can be accomplished.

Other Business

- The State of Maine DOT hosted a meeting on the Mountain Division in September. To date, the first 6 miles of the 51-mile corridor have been reconstructed with all new 115 lb rail from Westbrook to Windham, ME. It's expected that freight and excursion operations will ensue with clients already lining up. Operation contracts will be going out for bid.

- The TIGER grant application for MBTA's extension and layover relocation to Plaistow has been denied. Plans are still in place to go forward with the initiative however.

- Demoulas Development Corp is going to build out a \$1 billion project on a big parcel that straddles the M&L in Londonderry called the “Woodmont Orchards”.
- New England Southern has been removed from Concord. Pan Am Ry now calls the corridor the Concord Industrial Branch. Most new or potential shippers are very reluctant to set up shop in Canterbury as long as the interchange will be with PAR. NEGS will have interchange rights down to MP 44.0.
- The Milford & Bennington is not running due to bad relationships with PAR. The dispute is going to court Oct 29.
- A copy of the AASHTO Progress Report on the National Rail Plan was submitted. It’s called “Moving Forward”. More information can be found at www.transportationtv.org.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM

Next meeting: Monday, Dec 27, 2010 at 7 PM
Safety & Health Council
57 Regional Drive, Concord

Minutes by: Stephen R. Piper, Secretary