

Mid-South Division
Southeastern Region
National Model Railroad Association
General Meeting Minutes

March 7th , 2015

1. Meeting called to order at 09:30 by William (Sandy) Warrington, Supt. Total of 10 members present and no guests. Three of six members of the Board were present.
2. Greetings and opening remarks by William (Sandy) Warrington.
3. At the SER BOD meeting: Central Savannah River Division was bidding on the 2017 SER Convention but at the time of the September SER BOD meeting they had only 2 members of their Division sign up to help and at that BOD meeting there were questions about the apparent lack of participation of their members by the BOD attendees and it was voted to put it aside, later on the officials present from the Central Savannah River Division decided to withdraw their Convention bid. Their Supt. said he needed help and but that none was given. So at this recent SER BOD it was voted that Steel City (which is in Birmingham) is going to put on the 2017 SER Convention instead. Sandy told Steel City that whatever assistance they would give us, we would reciprocate and provide them with whatever they needed from us. They have 150-200 members and also have several MMR's included in their ranks such as Bob Beatty who is one of only eleven people in the NMRA who have all 11 MMR certificates and also Dr. Joe (Junior) Nichols who lacks just one certificate to have all eleven of them.
Sandy showed the SER our budget and they asked him about the actuals and Sandy said we didn't have any yet. The SER did not have any real comments about the budget but they did ask Sandy about the seed money loan repayment figures, Sandy told them that he had two line item totals for this expense included on the spread sheet. Sandy was asked why he decided to use his own spread sheet for our 2016 Convention budget instead of the spread sheet the SER puts out by Sally Bando, he said it was due to his familiarity with his own.
4. Palmetto Express SER Convention: Sandy brought some brochures to the meeting for this Convention and it shows they have a really nice clinic list Sandy said this should work out to around 36 or 37 clinics according to the

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schedule he had. According to the brochure they will have three clinic rooms with a scheduled 15 minute break in between each clinic. Sandy stated that clinic rooms would have to be emptied quickly, he also didn't know where they would put the Ladies at this time either. At the SER BOD meeting the SER was willing to pay out \$89.00 for a banner, but the one that Sandy found advertised in a magazine would cost around \$235.00! The ad stated we could put our Division info on it and Sandy felt it would be great advertisement for our Convention if we got it and we all seemed to agree. Sandy said that if we can get the funds for it, he will then take the banner and himself to all the mini-meets to advertise our Convention before it occurs in 2016!

5. Division Shirts: at the SER BOD meeting was Sally Bando's secretary who besides her accounting business, she also embroiders shirts and stated she will sell them to us at a discount price, with our Mid-South logo embroidered on them. They have shirts available in several different styles and colors and she recommends that we sell them for \$22.00 each. Sandy and Frank and Ken have already ordered one each. Sandy presented the availability of them to the Division Officials first but several of the members present at this meeting expressed an interest in getting one and Sandy said he would try and add these extra ones to this order if possible. Those of you who wish to order one should contact Sandy at wewarrington@msn.com. Note: Some of the darker colors may make parts of the logo hard to distinguish from the shirt, so order these colors very carefully! Sandy Stated you can see the logo on the correspondence that Frank sends out and it will give you an idea of what it might look like embroidered on the shirt.
6. The Convention : Sandy contacted Spirit Coach and bus costs from them will average about \$4.16 a seat, if you add these cost to the trip to NARM including riding the train you can charge \$25.00 each for that excursion and then \$15.00 each for the Depot excursion and make money doing so.

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NARM said the train will be \$750 for an hour and a half and it will seat approximately 60 people. They said that they have the ability to add extra cars to the train, but if they did it would make our excursion cost increase to \$22.00 for NARM and \$13.00 for the Depot. Sandy stated we would still make a profit. Bill asked if we were going to schedule a bus to the one layout tour in the gated community and Sandy asked if you could even turn a bus around there. Sandy said that these quotes were for 56 passenger buses and not mini buses. David Carlton said his church may let us borrow or rent their minibus and then several others stated that their churches may also do the same. All events on our convention should be completed on June 10 and June 11, 2016 including clinics, excursions and more.

7. Around the room: We would like to welcome John Chapman to our Division as he is a new member. Ken Mattern reminded us about the Old Decatur Depot Tour he set up for March 21st at 11:00 am to all who want to come. Sandy showed us the contract and it will allow us to borrow the seed money once it is signed and delivered to the SER. Our next meeting will be April 4th at the Bailey Cove Library. At this time we will have the clinic by Ken Mattern on the Helicon Focus Software.
8. Meeting Adjourned.



Respectfully Submitted: Frank George Secretary of the Mid-South Division