

Northern Chapter – New England Train Collectors Association (NC-NETCA) Formation Meeting Minutes

Meeting at St. Catherine's, Portsmouth, NH, Sunday, September 15, 2013

Bill Halley, moderator; brought meeting to order 10:01am

NOTE: Q = question; A = answer

Q: How do we want to set (this) chapter up?

Q: Why have a northern chapter

A: geography – southern chapter primarily in Ashland, MA & south (e.g. R.I.)

A: No more than 2 meetings per year (suggested)

- meeting in Portsmouth because Ed Young got the Church for us for free and it was “centrally” located (future meeting places to be determined)
- this location has been the site of previous train shows (future availability to be determined)
- situated in tax free NH (no messing around with State Department of Revenue as in MA)

Q: How publicize shows?

- noted Windham (NH) & Haverhill (MA) shows are gone
- TCA constantly getting smaller
- allow outsiders to have tables at shows? – up to us.
- Have a (local) radio station broadcast from show?
- Charge \$5 admission; under age 5 (?) free? \$5 per family?
- Have something for kids (at shows? Within the club?)
- Recruit members? Problem for other groups. Use open house? Other ways?

Ed Young suggested we introduce ourselves (those attending), where from, bit about, etc. Noted those attending from:

MA - Burlington, Lowell, Rockport

ME – Old Orchard Beach, Otisfield, Saco

NH – Atkinson, Hudson, N. Hampton, Plaistow, Portsmouth, Rollinsford, Stratham

Q: how do we relate to/with NETCA?

A: we will be a chapter (northern chapter) within a division (NETCA). We will have our own Board of Directors (BOD) from which the president has to attend NETCA Directors meetings. We must abide by the ByLaws that were approved by TCA all else is up to us.

Back to ways to publicize shows;

Advertising for shows

- noted membership lacking will limit “word of mouth”
- shows noted as success (e.g. Augusta, ME) (*should we contact them for suggestions?*)
- flyers at other shows/auctions?
- community bulletin boards (*note WMUR-TV has one*)
- TCA Blast – broadcast to all NETCA members
- local bulletin boards (grocery stores, et. al.) – should be short/quick read
- activities in newspapers (can get to be expensive, benefit unsure)
- target specialized groups – other train clubs, shows/auctions (again)
- base of members present (e.g. Maine 3 Railers & Metro Hi Railers)
- Weather channel crawler w/intermittent announcements
- promote among train people
- Down Easter promo (reciprocating)
- 470 Club (Seashore Trolley Museum)
- Conway Scenic Railway
- Hobo Railway

Ed Young made motion no one get paid for office; motion seconded and unanimously passed.

- Noted that no dues to belong to NETCA (must be a TCA member, but NETCA gets no dues from them)
- Suggested no dues to belong to Northern Chapter

Q: what officers (Board of Directors) are required?

A: President, President Elect (to become president next year), Secretary, Treasurer & Meet Coordinator.

Suggested we elect a slate of officers. The following attendees were nominated, nominations were seconded and each voted in unanimously:

President	Bill Halley
President Elect	Ed Young
Secretary	Dale Officer

Treasurer Brian Vaill

Meet Coordinator Ed Martin

First meeting was set for September 29, 10 AM at Bill Halley's house (subsequently moved to September 24, 4 PM at Bill's).

Q: When schedule our 1st train show?

- noted that now to December, dealers already committed to other shows.
- consider January to April? (show dates generally October to April)
- Why not May to June?

Get announcement ready (flyer) for Tilton auction 9/21 (*sent out for Board review/approval 9/19*)

Q: is there a provision for 2 Board of Directors (at large)?

A: Yes; provision for 2 past presidents OR current President may appoint them.

Mentioned that no one shall have more than 1 vote.

Meeting ended at 11:45 AM.

These minutes respectfully submitted this day. For omissions/corrections please contact me at dale_officer @ Comcast.net or 603-382-8534. Dale Officer, Secretary