



ORANGE COUNTY MODEL ENGINEERS, INC.

The Mackerel Flats and Goat Hill Junction Railroad

P.O. Box 3216 • Costa Mesa, CA 92628-3216 • (949) 548-7246

Date of Meeting: Saturday August 3, 2019

Place of Meeting: OCME Clubhouse

Call To Order: The regularly scheduled meeting of the Orange County Model Engineers, Inc. was called to order at 1:05 PM by President Gary Gorman.

Board Members Present: Hank Castignetti, Gary Gorman, Bob Harrison, Ken Matassa, Allen Stephens

Board Members Absent: None

Approval Of Minutes: Motion to approve July minutes by Ken, seconded by Allen.
Motion carried 5-0

Other Members Present: Dixon Sheldon, Dalton Johnson

Member Issues:

- Dixon asked if he could obtain straw bales for the pumpkin patch in October. The board explained that the City of Costa Mesa is sponsoring the Scarecrow Festival, which includes the pumpkin patch, and has yet to approve straw bales and has not provided OCME with details of the event. (The City of Costa Mesa has since approved the pumpkin patch to be located at the birthday party siding along with the use of straw bales).
- Dalton requested 12 more axles from Dan O'Brien to maintain 3 more cars with worn wheel flanges. The board explained that complete new trucks are available for half the price of axels and took the request under advisement. Dalton also asked if he could take responsibility for changing engine oil in all club engines. The board is grateful for his initiative and Gary asked Dalton to apprentice with Glenn Swain to learn the proper procedure. Dalton also asked if OCME would purchase an engine oil pump similar to the one used by Terry Cummings to change oil. **Hank was tasked with obtaining one.**

TREASURER'S REPORT:

- Gary volunteered to ask Dan O'Brien to exempt OCME from paying sales taxes on purchases from his company.
- Gary volunteered to verify with Betty that the club does not pay sales taxes on store supplies that are intended for resale.
- Allen stated that he is still sending dumpster invoices to the City of Costa Mesa for reimbursement. Under the terms of OCME's Use Agreement the city is to assume that expense directly. Hank offered to discuss the issue with Fairview Park Administrator Cyngthia D'Agosta.
- Allen reported the general fund of \$21,119
- Total Current Assets as of July 31st was \$47,044
- **Motion to approve Treasurers report by Hank, second by Ken. Motion passed 5-0.**

OLD BUSINESS:

- Hank to address signs at can and bottle recycle bins.
- New signs have been installed to direct members to use the correct bin for cans vs. bottles.
- Hank to investigate alternatives to container roof leak repair.
- Hank found a self-adhesive synthetic membrane product designed for repairs to metal storage containers, RV's as well as mobile homes. The product comes in 30x3 foot rolls, is warranted for 10 years and could be installed by members with a simple hand roller and a linoleum cutter. The cost to repair containers A&B would be approximately \$1000. A motion was made by Gary, seconded by Bob, to direct Hank to order material to perform these repairs, not to exceed \$1200. Motion passed 5-0.
- Gary to recommended implementation of \$2.00 "suggested donation" signs at the station.
- The OCME Use Agreement with the City of Costa Mesa allows the club to solicit donations, "in a manner approved by the city". A motion was made by Hank, seconded by Allen, to request permission from the City of Costa Mesa to erect such signs. Motion passed 5-0. (The city has since approved such signs and was dismayed to learn that our average donation per ride is only \$.48 cents).

NEW BUSINESS:

- Gary suggested a study Session be scheduled at his house on August 25th to discuss issues related to storage of equipment at the club. The board agreed to this date.
- Allen discussed usage of club gasoline for non-club activities. Hank was directed to make a sign for the gas locker reminding members of gas use policy.
- Hank has installed a sign on the gasoline locker explaining club policy.
- The board reached consensus to partner with the City of Coast Mesa regarding the Scarecrow Festival. The City will coordinate all activities regarding scarecrows, (including solicitation of entries and location of scarecrow displayed on the railroad), as well as location of vendors in the station area. All approved vendors will receive a packet from the City containing a list of requirements as well as a map of the layout. OCME may construct a pumpkin patch at the birthday siding and offer pumpkins for a suggested donation price to be determined by the club. OCME may invite vendors and a list of OCME vendors is to be presented for approval to Cynthia D'Agosta by Gary Gorman not later than September 23rd. All vendors must have a valid email address. Kids activities by Kathy Brokhausen and Carolyn Hayes have been approved by the city and will be included in our list.
- Hank discussed plans for the new engine unveiling ceremony to take place on Saturday September 21st. Invited guests include Costa Mesa Mayor, Mayor Pro Tem, City Council Members, City Manager, Assistant City Manager, Parks and Recreation Director, Fairview Park Administrator, local media, City media staff and general public. Festivities will begin at 9:30 AM and culminate with the unveiling of the engine by the mayor followed by a "big toot". A program of events will be sent to all OCME members to solicit their participation.
- Hank discussed plans for the Lion's Club fish Fry which will take place on our run Weekend of 9/21 and 9/22. The Fish Fry begins at 12:00 noon on both days and the Lion's Club will furnish volunteers to coordinate parking in our lot. The Lion's Club has offered to co-market our Run Days on Fish Fry social media and to provide \$1.00 off dinner coupons to all our riders. OCME will reciprocate by soliciting our riders to spend time at the fish fry and carnival and to enjoy a fish dinner.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

- Ken has repaired all security camera cables and all high-definition cameras are now in working order. Ken advised that the club needs more work gloves for the Sunburst Academy, as well as large trash bags.

- Hank offered congratulations to Bob Harrison for all his work coordinating the activities of the Sunburst Academy and noted the impressive accomplishments by the group. A round of applause ensued. Hank suggested that OCME investigate supplying members with small water bottles in place of the .5 liter size. He noted how many half-filled water bottles routinely litter the compound. Bob advised that the small bottles are more expensive and will investigate the issue further. Hank noted that repairs to the turntable platform need to be completed by our Fall Meet.
- Bob advised that he has installed another “dummy” video camera at the station to dispel vandalism. There are now three cameras in use.
- Gary advised the board that Steve Trom found an additional problem with the hydraulic pump on the 1104 requiring purchase of an additional \$800 in parts. **A motion was made by Gary, seconded by Hank to authorize expenditure of \$800 for the additional parts. Motion approved 5-0.**
- Hank discussed riding car truck replacement. Club riding car trucks are approaching 20 years old, have a weight limit of 850 pounds per car, and aluminum the side frames and wheel flanges are showing extensive wear. Hank recommended testing a pair of trucks manufactured by Live Steamer Parts which are exact copies of trucks offered by Titan Trains. Live Steamer Parts trucks offer high-strength ductile steel wheels, cast iron side frames, sealed bearings, and have a rated weight limit of 1300 pounds per car. Two sets of trucks (enough for one car) are \$370 and include free shipping. **A motion was made by Gary, seconded by Allen, to direct Hank to purchase 1 pair of trucks for testing. Motion approved 5-0.**
 - o **A motion was made by Hank, seconded by Ken, to appoint Dalton Johnson “Rolling Stock Superintendent” with responsibility to maintain all non-powered club cars as well as apprentice to learn procedure for changing engine oil. Motion approved 5-0**

AD HOC BOARD VOTES: *(Votes taken by email or when a quorum is present at the club.)*

- 8/5/19 Purchase of 2 rerailers from Dan O’Brien. 1 for the 214 and 1 for the 819. Not to exceed \$800. **Motion approved 5-0.**
- 8/7/19 Purchase of hydraulic pump parts for 509. Not to exceed \$900. **Motion approved 3-2. (Allen and Hank not voting)**
- 8/17/19 Purchase 8 switch frogs from Dan O’Brien for \$2800. **Motion approved 5-0.**

EVENTS:

- 9/7/19 Sunburst Academy cleanup.
- 9/21/19 Fish Fry and new engine unveiling event.
- 9/27-29/19 OCME Fall Meet

Motion to adjourn by Hank, seconded by Ken. Motion approved 5-0 at 2:40PM.

Respectfully Submitted 

 Hank Castignetti, Secretary

Orange County Model Engineers, Inc. is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, Federal Tax ID# 33-0141601

(Items in **RED** require/denote action by a member)