

Southampton Railroad Station Society
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, August 16, 2012

Board Attendees:	<u>Present</u>	<u>Excused</u>
	Jim Rose	Paul Iverson
	Jon Frey	
	Jim Day	
	Leon Duminiak	
	Regina Frey	
	Frank Baldwin	
	Charlie Liberto	

Members/Public Attendees: Don Reese, Bob Weigelt, Andrew Perrong

Topics of Discussion:

OLD BUSINESS

- Utility Services – According to Jim Day, the Township had switched its energy provider in the past but feels that PECO is competitive with their rates. Last month’s electric bill was \$30.99; this month’s bill is \$27.80. Regina made a motion to operate the site lighting daily for a month from 8:30pm to 2am as a test to determine daily usage. The motion was seconded and approval was unanimous. Mark Liss suggested that PECO be contacted to solicit their assistance in replacing the current lighting with more energy efficient substitutes such as LEDs. Leon Duminiak suggested that PECO might perform an energy audit.
- SEPTA – Andrew Perrong indicated that SEPTA’s Inspector General visited the website of the Newtown Trail group.
- Insurance – no activity.
- Station Society Website – John Frey reported that the website’s Events page received 282 visitors in the past month, probably due to the promotion of the Fall Excursion. Over 1,300 “unique” visits were made to the site in the last month.
- Special Events/Activities – Jon Frey reported that last Friday’s “Lighting Event” attracted 19 non-station society members and event organizers. There were 2 antique automobiles and a 1966 Ford Thunderbird present. There were no incidents to report. The society made \$134.00 in donations. Charlie Liberto indicated that the date of the Holiday Railfest has been reserved for December 8, 2012. The choral group may be too expensive and not reach enough people to justify the \$200 expense. Jim Day stated that he may be able to recruit some musicians to perform during the event. Charlie Liberto recommended that planning start now for a May 2013 Armed Forces Day. Current ticket sales for the Fall NH&IRR excursion stand at 55. Jon Frey recommended taking excursion flyers to the upcoming train show in Warminster. The question arose regarding

when the decision should be made to cancel the excursion due to insufficient ticket sales. According to the contract, notification of cancellation must be received by the railroad via registered mail 21 days prior to the event in order to receive a full refund which would be by Sept. 1st. A decision made by Sept. 15th would result in the refund of half of the \$1800 deposit. Leon Duminiak made a motion that if 100 tickets are sold by August 31st the trip is a “go”; if fewer than 80 tickets sold by that date the trip would be cancelled. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously by the board.

- Grants – Jon Frey indicated that the check for \$500 had been received from the NRHS. He inquired when the matching funds would be forthcoming from the Delaware Valley Chapter. The money is earmarked for foundation repair. Jim Rose stated that he was in the process of developing specifications and a scope of work to be used to solicit quotes from contractors. The scope of work would include re-setting displaced stones, re-alignment of shifted stones, rake mortaring for future joint re-pointing. Jim Rose recommended contacting SEPTA to ascertain their contractor’s insurance requirements. Bob Weigelt stated that he was a qualified contractor and was willing to perform the work gratis. Leon Duminiak distributed a template for preparing an RFP.
- Site Sign – no activity.
- Fundraising – Jim Day suggested conducting a raffle of the framed print of the Bryn Athyn Wreck newspaper. Jim Rose mentioned that the state requires a permit to conduct a raffle. Andrew Perrong indicated that a permit is not required if the value of the item being raffled is less than \$500. Raffle tickets will be \$5 for one ticket; \$10 for three tickets. Non-framed duplicate prints could be made available for sale at a later date for \$10 to \$15 each.
- Adjacent Development Project – It was reported that Toner has installed silt fence on station property. The old rail corner boundary marker has apparently been removed.
- Site Work/Activity – Regina Frey stated that she has painted additional faux windows mullions.
- Station Model Kit – Leon Duminiak indicated that the shingle issue has been resolved. He will forward the information to John Greene. Leon questioned the proposed \$100 price tag for the kit. Most comparable kits are selling in the \$50 to \$60 range.
- Site/Building Issues – Jim Rose distributed a plan outlining his recommendation for repairing the rear portion of the upper roof. The scope of work would include rebuilding the chimney and dormers.
- Village Market – Regina Frey indicated that there were a total of 4 vendors at the July 28th market during which the society sold 1 t-shirt and received a \$5 donation. The August 11th market was cancelled.
- Business Cards – Regina Frey stated that the cards were in their final revision which would be presented at the next board meeting.

- Newsletter – Jon Frey indicated that the draft Summer issue of the newsletter would be distributed shortly via e-mail for review and comment. Leon Duminiak recommended that a time limit be placed on the review to expedite the process.
- Steam Pub – Jon Frey recommended approaching the owners of the restaurant to resolve the grievances regarding their unauthorized use of copy written material from the society's website.

NEW BUSINESS

- Meeting Minutes – The meeting minutes of July 19, 2012 were approved as submitted.
- Emergency Board Meeting Minutes – Jim Day requested an amendment of the meeting minutes from the Emergency Board Meeting held on August 8, 2012. In the second paragraph on the second page in regards to the Artisan's Market, the market is not of concern from a liability standpoint as the station society was not the sponsor of the event. Jim Day recommended that the minutes be amended to indicate that the market is a different case as liability issues needed to be resolved between the market organizers and the township. The motion to approve the amendment carried and the minutes were approved as amended.
- Treasurer's Report – Regina Frey reported that the current balance in the society's account is \$1,577.51. The society has been assessed an \$18 account maintenance fee by Bank of America. Jim Day indicated that he would request that the fee be waived but also recommended that the society look into moving its account to another bank.
- Membership – Regina Frey reported that she contacted 6 lapsed members and received 1 family, 1 sustaining and 1 contributing membership level renewals. Mark Liss inquired about the current membership level. Regina verified that current membership stands at 18.
- Tamanend Park Day – Mark Liss reported that he had been contacted by Shirley Sherman of the UST Park & Recreation Dept. He reserved 2 tables at the main pavilion for the society's display. Picnic tables and electric service is available for model train displays. Mark felt that it would be better to be located in the pavilion where most of the day's activities are conducted to improve exposure to the public. Few people made the effort to visit the Carriage House.
- By-Law Revisions – Jim Day proposed making some minor amendments to the by-laws. Leon Duminiak made a motion, which was seconded, to create a By-Law Review Committee. This motion was approved unanimously by the board. The committee will consist of 5 members which will include Leon Duminiak, Regina Frey, Paul Iverson, Jim Day, and Don Reese.
- Water & Sewer Utility Connections – Jon Frey proposed to begin talking to the township about the requirements regarding water and sewer service connections to the station. Mark Liss indicated that it would be much cheaper and easier if the township required Toner to provide a sewer lateral stub connection from his

development to the station site for future connection. This would avoid a costly excavation in the cartway of Second Street Pike which is a state highway.

- Next Board Meeting – the board will next meet on Thursday, September 20, 2012 at the Upper Southampton Township Building beginning at 7:45pm.