

Division 4, MCR, NMRA, Board of Directors Meeting, June 9, 2026, Olmsted Falls Depot

Meeting opened at 7:00 pm by Superintendent elect Bert Wisbar. He took a few minutes to congratulate the newly elected officers. There were 17 members present.

New Business:

East Broad Top Bus Trip - Bert Wisbar - The trip will consist of bus ride, 2 nights hotel (on your own), food (on your own), admission for a lot of cool behind the scenes tour (\$121.00), and a run over to Altoona. Possible dates October 16, 17, and 18. Gary Schaefer made a motion to use Division funds to pay for the bus. Brian Haas seconded the motion. The eligible voting members of the board carried the motion.

Pennsylvania Trolley Museum - Bert Wisbar - A one day trip possibly July 18th. Meet up somewhere and car pool there and back. \$25.00 admission, meals will be on your own. Bram Bailey promises a good time.

Back -Ups - Bert Wisbar - We need to update our current "Back - Up list". Each position should have a back-up, and possible replacement. Everyone has till July 9th to complete this task.

News Letter - Don Oleksa - Looking at a new program to give the Flat Wheel a more modern look. Don would like more content from members. Feedback is also welcome. Need some filler context like comics, classified section, model of the month, etc... Maybe feature layouts bonus is you get AP points for submissions.

Member Files - Bert Wisbar - Everyone please check your personal information with the NMRA. If they don't have your correct information then neither does the Division. There was talk about having papers at meeting for corrections to be made at the meeting. Also talked about reopening Old Knowledge Depot. A list of members who have knowledge about certain area to help those looking for help on projects.

New Layout/Tour Leader - Bert Wisbar - John Witt, MMR is stepping down, after years of volunteering. A few names were talked about. Bert will speak to them privately to see if they are interested and willing to do the job. A few ideas were discussed to change how tours were done. This was tabled until we have a person in charge.

Financial Transparency - Gary Sole - The Division needs to watch carefully on spending our money. A plateau should be set on the conservative side. It should be done annually at fiscal year closure.

Prototypical Operation - Looking at a new trend in Model Railroading. Even the Magazine is doing quarterly reports on this trend.

Old Business:

Great Berea Train Show - David James - Sales are going well, applications are coming in. Bert has flyers. Advertising still out there on Facebook and flyers. Both seem to be working well at this time. Possible meeting of the Advertising group later this month.

Module Group - Adam Woodie - The Module Group will be pulling out of displaying at Chattanooga.

Cuyahoga County Fair set up is August 8th. The Fair runs August 11th thru the 16th. Tear down will be on the 17th.

Work Party at the Benson's home maybe changed due to Field Trip to PA Trolley Museum.

We are pulling out of the Zoo this winter. Couldn't get enough to cover the time slots.

September 19th and 20th will be set up and running trains at Great Northern Mall.

Membership - Craig Butler - Started the year out with 164 members and currently at 167, New members are ones not showing up anymore. What can we do to keep our members coming back? A bunch of suggestions were given: make sure to greet new faces, maybe assign 2 Board Members per meeting to be greeters. Maybe someone call them before meeting as a reminder of meeting date.

Budget - Greg Noeth - Greg gave us a balance on all accounts. He then proceeded to let us know deposits from Great Berea Train Show have been made. He finished up by letting us know that IRS paperwork is now under control.

General News:

NMRA Business Meeting is being moved from September 11th to October 9th.

Joe Kurilec, MMR, made a suggestion to get Cynthia Priest, MMR, from Model Railroader Magazine to do a clinic. He has spoken to her and all she would like is to be reimbursed for cost of travel. Her husband may come also.

Work Sessions on Saturday - Jerry Kruger one will be set up for late October, early November.

Ron Morgan - Friday will be the Changing of the Guards. Regional and National are looking at 4H groups to get youngsters interested in the hobby. This is something to be considered.

Brian Haas made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Gary Schaefer seconded and the motion and the Board carried it. Meeting closed at 8:38 pm.

This Meeting has reached its Final Destination,
Chris Shick
Secretary, Division 4, MCR, NMRA