



Neil Wenthe is at the control panel while **Phil Haworth** walks around visiting with guests as they watch the Lionel Christmas Train, December 21, 2017. The annual operation in the lobby of the First National Bank, Santa Fe, came to end December 30th, when taken down until next year. (Spude photo)

Trainsactions

Brief Instant Minutes of the January 10, 2018 SFMRRC meeting

1. Welcome. **President Ed Williams** welcomed everyone to the Santa Fe Children's Museum. He brought munchies and beverages for the 25 members who braved the cold and snowy weather to attend the first meeting of the New Year.

2. Meeting Guests and New Members. **President Williams** recognized new member **Grant Luckhardt**, who was a club member a few years ago and decided to rejoin. Like many of us, he says he started in the hobby when 10 years old, the year he received a Lionel set. From there he upgraded to HO and then, after his move to Santa Fe, has built an outdoor F-scale layout, a scale introduced to us by **Bob Dolci** at a clinic on scales last fall. Welcome!

3. Clinic: Rail Museums Visit. We began with a presentation by **Roger Moose** on his and **Roxie Westdyk's** recent visit to the Strasburg, Pennsylvania tourist railroad, the adjacent Pennsylvania State Railroad Museum, and the Red Caboose Motel. He shared photos of their restoration work of not only the museum's own equipment but of some "top secret" locomotive restoration projects from distant

railroads. He finished with photos from the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad museum in Baltimore. A great way to start the meeting and to (re-)introduce members to several top attractions in the East.

4. Christmas Train at First National Bank. **President Williams** thanked everyone who came out to run the trains at the bank on the plaza for another successful season. He especially wanted to thank **Gary Lee**, coordinator, for his work. **Gary** mentioned that his repair committee -- **Dave Staples, Rodney Roof, Vick Thomas, and Gary** -- have already begun the assessment of some of the needed repair work on the layout. **Dave Staples** is checking the wiring; **Rodney** is checking equipment; and all are inventorying equipment, locomotives, and rolling stock for any needed work. **John Harnisch** asked, and wanted to remind all, that the Children's Train Club, Santa Fe Children's Museum, is in need of second-hand O rolling stock. If the bank has any to spare (or anyone else!), they would put it to good use.

5. Children's Train Club. **John Harnisch** reported that the Santa Fe Children's Museum Kid's Train Club met last Saturday. They are still looking for a volunteer to help the kids with HO scale activities. If you wish to volunteer or have donations contact **John** at pjharnisch@msn.com.

6. 2018 Spring Show at Hastings in DeVargas Mall & Plan B. **President Williams** reported that he is working with mall management to use the former Hastings space for the club show again this April. The mall may have other demands for the space, so has not committed to us at this point. He said they will continue to talk, but we may have to come up with a plan B. He added he needs an assistant to help him with the mall planning; if interested let him know. We also discussed the fall show--see below item 10.

7. Dues and Treasurer's Report. Reminder: dues for 2018 are now past due. Mail your \$25 check, made out to SFMRRC, to treasurer **Gary Lee** at 14 Loma Blanca, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87506. The invoice is on the club web page and can be printed out and sent to him as well. A copy of the most recent treasurer's report was e:mailed members.

8. Nominating Committee report **Bob Hayden and Bob Spude**, nominating committee members (the others are **Dick Haber** and **Mark Kellerman**) briefly reported their discussions to date. We are still looking for a new president, and thanks to **Ed Williams** for his willingness to remain in his post, NTE May 1. Let the committee know if you would be interested in this fun-filled position of great glory (and appreciation). Also under discussion is revising the by-laws, to reduce the term length of the president from two to one year. Also we may add a second vice-president position, one year term, to be held by the outgoing president and advisor. Other bylaws -- the way we do business -- are under review. Stay tuned.

9. Members Only Portal on the Web. **Vick Thomas** is looking into this but has nothing to report at this time.

10. New Business. **Jim "JT" Terhune** gave a reporter on three initiatives that he has been working on. They are detailed in the attached summary sheet, which he passed out to the group. They are: 1) An annual Train History Celebration held each Fall; 2) a permanent layout to be built in the former Santa Fe Railroad Depot, Santa Fe; and 3) Painting the Santa Fe Southern Railroad locomotive 93. After much discussion the following was agreed:

1-If available at reasonable price, the club would use the El Museo space for its annual fall show, moving the dates from October to late September when the Railyard celebrates its 10 anniversary. JT would be coordinator with the Railyard, city, El Museo, and others. **Tony Balano** and others thought this was a good idea; **Neil Wenthe** added the need to separate the three activities and discuss and vote separately. **President Williams** moved that we move forward on item 1 and **Neil Wenthe** seconded; the motion carried by voice vote. **JT** will chair the committee and members will include **Tony Balano**.

2-Most discussions revolved around the proposed time schedule -- to get an N scale layout ready for this fall event is nearly impossible, except as a bare board loop. Needed was a good estimate of time and the cost (and willingness of the city to pay for supplies, materials, equipment, etc). The city previously asked the club if they were interested in building the layout and **JT** is willing to be lead on discussing the potential project. **Bob Hayden** cautioned about being too optimistic about cost, time, and willingness of members to volunteer all the labor on a rigorous schedule. He suggested the hiring of a job boss with experience, such as **Erich Brock**, to keep the work on track. **Gordy Miller** suggested looking into building the layout as modules. At this point, it was agreed that **JT** work with **Bob Hayden** to come up with a rough but realistic estimate for the layout. They will get back to the group.

3-The painting of the 93 was discussed without defining the club role besides being supportive. There is a firm that painted it before -- for \$12,000 -- and a group known as Keep Santa Fe Beautiful as logical fundraiser, but not sure of the role of Santa Fe Southern, the owner. We need more information, which **JT** will gather. Also, the proposed children's drawing contest was discussed and will be explored with the Children's Museum by **John Harnisch** and **Steve Meyer**, with **JT**. No action at this time.

11. Questions, comments, ideas for the good of the Club.

Rich Kopel recommended that a note of appreciation be included in these minutes for **Fran and Henry Day** for the annual hosting of their Christmas Party, which all club members are always invited. The group concurred and the appreciation is duly recorded.

Neil Wenthe brought photos of his repair work on the O signal lights that he passed around before the meeting. These are signals, long ago broken, that were on the Bank train set-up.

President Williams announced that next month our clinic will be by Fred Freeman, a recognized expert on the history of the railroads of Santa Fe County.

12. Upcoming Club Meetings

Next meeting: Wednesday, February 14, starting at 6:30 at Santa Fe Children's Museum.

Submitted by Bob Spude, secretary

*Note, thanks to Susan Cover for posting these minutes on the club web page,
<http://santafemodelrailroadclub.org/>*