

RAILROAD MODEL CLUB OF ATLANTA INCORPORATED

Monthly Meeting Statistics		Date: 13 January 2024
Presiding: Acting VP DeBruin		Start: 10:20 Stop: 12:50
Regular members in attendance:		
P. Silcox, <i>President</i>	G. Kinney, <i>Treasurer</i>	J. Owens, <i>Secretary</i>
D. Butts	J. Congemi	S. Kerr
K. Kmack	T. Lavin	D. Mason
R. Morhard	R. Rebsamen	C. Robinson
B. Smith	O. Trifanescu	J. Watson
T. Weldon		C. Withrow
Administration:		
By-laws	Mr. Mason appointed a By-laws committee comprising Messrs. Lavin, Mason, and Owens, with Mr. Owens as chairman.	
Prior Minutes	not addressed.	
Treasurer’s Report	not addressed.	

This meeting was conducted at the home of J. Congemi and online.

Old Business

<u>Topic</u>	<u>Respondent</u>	<u>Discussion</u>
Warehouse lease	P. DeBruin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Smith has offered the Corporation the use of his warehouse space in Hiram, which can reduce storage expense by \$18k annually. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The space is about 45 miles from the Tucker facility and is accessible by major highways almost to the door; its floor is level with the ground so a truck may back right in. Mr. Smith states that shelving which could hold pallets is available for immediate assembly, with the proviso that some pallets may necessitate a means of lifting them onto the shelves. If the Corporation vacates its current warehouse by February's end it will save \$3000, whereas failure to do so would forfeit the deposit and next month's rent.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • While much of the Corporation's material in Tucker is palletized, much isn't and will be damaged if handled by a carrier; moving such items will necessitate the use of personal vehicles, an exercise which will require planning and participation. • Mr. DeBruin has held initial conversations with a carrier, who would like to make the move in one day and expects that doing so will require four trucks; the cost will decrease as more items are moved by Corporation members and as more items are palletized. • Mr. Watson offers a box truck for moving the modular layout. As the truck is usually available on weekends, members selected the first weekend in February for the purpose. • Some items will be discarded to the on-site dumpster.
Facility selection	P. DeBruin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Corporation's bid for the Riverdale property was surpassed by that of another prospective purchaser. • Mr. Kmack presented a report of other buildings the Property Committee has considered, and rejected for various reasons such as zoning, structural condition, tenant attractiveness, or parking. At this juncture the property pipeline is empty. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Committee does know of a Tucker building which previously housed a dance studio; it is a possibility and will receive review. ○ Mr. Weldon proposed that the Corporation could share space with another rail-focused organization. The members favored this proposition, if a suitable partner can be found. ○ Mr. Smith expressed that a custom building is a nice idea but land cost and supply-chain issues deplete some of the prospect's luster. • Mr. DeBruin thanked the Committee members, Laurel Henderson, and Bryant Dromey for their dedication, and especially Mr. Kmack for his service as Chairman.
Website	D. Mason	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Mason noted that the Corporation's new website railroadmodelclubofatlanta.com is now in its formative stage, and needs member contribution to fill it with content. He expects to engage the Board of Directors on the topic.

Election

Mr. Owens conducted the Corporation's annual election of constitutional officers, who received the following vote totals:

President		Vice President		Treasurer		Secretary	
D. Mason	C. Robinson	J. Congemi	<i>unopposed</i>	G. Kinney	T. Lavin	J. Owens	<i>unopposed</i>
11	7	18	0	4	14	18	0

Mr. Mason moved that the Corporation's constitutional officers be seated as its Board of Directors.

- Mr. Owens declined consideration.
- Three members who had volunteered for Board service (P. Silcox, K. Kmack, D. Butts) did not receive consideration.

The motion to elect the remaining three officers passed with 13 votes.

New Business

<u>Topic</u>	<u>Respondent</u>	<u>Discussion</u>
Layout power	P. DeBruin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. DeBruin cited the recent e-mail traffic regarding power supplies for the modular layout and the future permanent layout. • Commending the example set by the Property Committee (<i>e.g.</i>, chairman, structure, regularly-scheduled meetings) Mr. DeBruin called for creation of a similar Power Committee that would <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ investigate layout power options ○ determine which option offers the most benefits ○ issue a recommendation for consideration by the membership. • Mr. Mason had already asked Mr. Trifanescu to participate in such a committee; he along with Messrs. Butts, Kmack, Smith, and Withrow will serve on it. • Mr. Kmack expressed concern about potential conflict of interest when Board members also serve on committees.
RMCA meeting schedule	D. Mason	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Mason proposed that Corporation meetings occur monthly for <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ operation, third Saturday at 10:00, in person ○ business, third Monday at 19:00, by Zoom The proposal received unanimous concurrence.

Good of the Order

<i><u>Topic</u></i>	<i><u>Respondent</u></i>	<i><u>Discussion</u></i>
Trains, Trains, Trains meet	D. Mason	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Trains, Trains, Trains event will occur at the Southern Museum in Kennesaw. Its associated dates are<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Sunday 21Jan load modular layout○ Friday 26Jan 09:30 assemble layout onsite○ Saturday 27Jan public viewingCurrently the layout is in Mr. Congemi's home, from which it must be transported to the show's venue.
O-Scale South meet	D. Mason	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Corporation is a sponsor of the O-Scale South meet, which has more than two dozen tables available; Mr. Congemi will solicit interest by local rail-historical groups for some that are uncommitted.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ The show date is 24 February; Mr. Mason seeks volunteers for setup followed by dinner on the Friday preceding.○ Layout tours will occur on Sunday 25Feb after the show.
RMCA objectives	D. Mason	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. Mason stated that the Corporation is poised for a singular achievement in Atlanta-area model railroad-ing: to buy a building and return to its purpose. He would also like to increase educational offerings and be able to accept contributions.