



NH Railroad Revitalization Association

November 24, 2008

Tonight's meeting was called to order by President Peter Griffin @ 7:00 PM at the Health and Safety Council in Concord.

Attendees:

| Name | Town |
|------------------|-------------|
| Peter Griffin | Windham, NH |
| Bill Remington | Concord, NH |
| Stephen Flanders | Weare, NH |
| Stephen Piper | Dover, NH |
| Jim Bull | Windham, NH |

| Name | Town |
|------------------|----------------|
| Dennis Grimes | Bedford, NH |
| Lenny McGee | Manchester, NH |
| Winthrop Buswell | Laconia, NH |
| Gary Kerr | Chichester, NH |

Visitors: Tony Weatherbee, Brian Wilmot (UNH)

October Minutes

The October 27 meeting minutes were approved as submitted.

Treasurer's Report

Steve Flanders reported the organization's account balance. He also reported a \$75 payment to the Attorney General's office and reimbursed for postage.

Transit Authority Update

Mike Izbicki has been nominated as Chair of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee has been voted in 17-0 and the roles and responsibilities of such were discussed. At this point, expenditures cannot exceed \$5000 and no contracts with terms longer than 2 years may be entered. Bill submitted draft NHRTA Bylaws and their Nov 21 agenda.

Guest Speaker – John Elsnau

John is the Vice President of Finance at Capitol Distributors, where he has been for the last 4 years. Capitol Distributors is a wholesale beer distribution center located in Concord adjacent to the rail line and currently conducts business only in NH. Despite having an adjacent track once used for the receipt of shipments by rail, Capitol currently receives all freight by truck. This is due to the lack of timely rail service now available.

All suppliers of beer must sell through an independent distributor. No direct sales to consumers or stores take place. Capitol Distributors receives from Molson and Coors in Virginia, southern California and Canada. Miller and Coors are expected to merge by July 1, 2009. Capitol envisions opportunity for growth and could become a regional distribution center for all of northern New England and would seriously consider returning to receiving freight by rail if good service could be guaranteed. Coors is very pro-rail and ships a large part of their products this way.

Peter stated that Capitol Distributors' situation is not unique and suggested that potential shippers along the line should get together and speak with NHDOT Commissioner Campbell. He will e-mail Mr. Campbell accordingly. Steve Flanders will furnish a list of other potential shippers on the corridor. Winthrop requested a ballpark figure of potential annual carloads that Capitol might receive. Bill requested information of where Coors and Canadian shipments go by rail now.

UNH Senior Project Proposal

The two attendees at tonight's meeting spoke on their efforts to determine a best-fit location for the proposed Manchester Airport Multimodal Rail Commuter Station project. They have narrowed the focus based upon traffic, economic and logistic impacts. They intend to e-mail the proposal for distribution to NHRRA members.

Other Business

Peter commented on the NH Climate Change Energy Task Force. They are considering freight rail service to be a vital component of their initiative.

It was suggested that people call the Democratic National Committee at 1-877-336-7200 to speak up in favor of rail.

Winthrop submitted a copy of Trains Magazine that has his artwork advertisement therein, with the description clearly identifying NHRRA as a recipient of 10% of railroad artwork sales proceeds.

Peter has received bumper sticker prices from Al Hammar in Pelham.

Dennis suggested surveying NH people at station stops in Lowell and Billerica about the proposed passenger rail service extension to Manchester.

The proposed Pan-Am Railway transfer facility in Ayer has been held up due environmental concerns, specifically an endangered turtle species that was found in the area.

Steve Piper requested membership information from Steve Flanders for 2008.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM

Next meeting: Monday, December 22, 2008 at 7 PM
Safety & Health Council
163 Manchester Street, Concord

Minutes by: Stephen R. Piper, Secretary