



Minutes of the General Meeting
Wednesday 4th April 2018 at 7.30 pm
Oberon RSL Club

1. Present: G Bourne, M Salmon, R & M Webb, J Boxer, K Lingabala, T Arnison, P Culley, A Robinson, G Williams, V & I Theyers, J Smith, P & J O'Regan, D McMuarry, J Brothie, E Boxer.

2. Apologies: C & G Bembrick

Guest speakers.

The guest speakers for this meeting were Michael Forbes and Mark Langdon from Zig Zag Railway. Despite the lack of projector, the pictures of the aftermath of the bushfire were graphic and distressing. So much irreplaceable rolling stock was lost in the fire and subsequently vandalised and trashed that it will take a long time for the railway to rise again. The issues of insurance of heritage items was discussed and has given OTHR much to think about.

3. Minutes from the previous meeting:

The Minutes from the meeting of the 7th February were accepted as a true and accurate record;

Moved E Boxer.....; Seconded: G Bourne..... Carried.

4. Safety Management

No safety issues identified.

5. President's Report.

Heritage Transport Rally

Financially the rally was a success and number of visitors was encouraging. There was one new member recruited and Sunday was attended by Rob Mason from THNSW, Andrew Gee our local Federal Member and Kerry Gibbons the Deputy Mayor.

What the committee is working on like

HOL on the remainder of the track is being discussed with John Holland Rail. Ken Lingabala suggested that OTHR meet with JHR soon to progress this issue.

ONRSR accreditation for shunting in the yard with tractor and loco is underway.

Grants: there are a number of small grants submitted and David is working on a larger grant for the replacement of the platform coping and general restoration of the platform

SMS documentation.

Toward the end of February Ian Davis and Tim Arnison resigned from their positions in the preparation of the SMS documents. They felt that they did not have railway knowledge to produce the SMS documentation that is required by OTHR as progression continues. A new SMS Working Party has been established and is working well with the main focus being developing the documents in for Motion 1 & 2 below. There is also the need for constant review of the current documents which are visible on the website. The members are:

Greg Bourne

Martyn Salmon

Phil O'Regan

Michael Merrett

Graham Williams

Steve Gault

Ian Theyers

This is a larger group than we had previously and has a balance of people with railway experience as a career or other Heritage Groups as well as OH&S matters and computing skills.

During the committee meeting last week I accepted the nomination of SMS Manager. At this stage I am relying on other members of the committee to produce and review the documents associated with the movement of locomotives in the Oberon yard. I am systematically going through the documents that are currently visible on the web.

Track maintenance vehicles

Training day on Tuesday 6th March. We were able to run the Wickham up and down the track in front of the station during the Heritage Transport Rally. There will be more training in the future. Keep your eye on the website and even better let me know that you are interested and will put your name on the list.

At the January Committee Meeting

Motion 1. That OTHR applies for and gains ONRSR accreditation to shunt in the Oberon yard using a locomotive before 30th June 2018

Motion 2. That OTHR applies for and gains ONRSR accreditation to operate work trains to Hazelgrove before 31st December 2018

Motion 3.

That OTHR applies for and gains ONRSR accreditation to operate passenger trains to Hazelgrove before 31st December 2019, which is 40 years since the last passenger run

Station painting

The majority of the work has been completed. Our calculations show that there is enough money left to make a substantial improvement to the floor in the Ladies Waiting Room. Michael O'Kane was the major painter and he was helped many of the days by volunteers who prepared by sanding, cutting in etcetera. An excellent team effort overall. This was facilitated by a grant from the Federal Government. Andrew Gee gave the project the "thumbs up" on the Sunday of the Heritage Transport Rally.

6. General Business.

6.1 There was some discussion about the SMS documents. It was suggested by P Culley that as many as possible of the forms be written in generic format to reduce the amount of duplication. It was also noted that the reviewed forms should be available for the general members to look at as well as Committee members. There is a site on the SMS web page for documents under review and it was suggested that documents be loaded here and advertised through the membership list.

7. Other Business.

7.1. There was a report made to a member at the Transport Rally from a woman that the platform edge was dangerous. She felt it was not clearly defined enough and crumbly at the edge. There was discussion about the application for a grant to replace this edging.

7.2. Victoria Theyers tabled a fundraising idea titled "Starting Small" The document identified a number of catering ideas for fundraising at the station and the first option would be to have a Platform Café. Ultimately the option would to provide more advanced types of catering functions. As there is a car group attending the railway on the 21st April, it was suggested that this could be an opportunity to test the waters with the café idea. Victoria and David will organise this event.

7.3. The lack of people attending open days was raised and ideas are sought from members on ways to increase the attendance. The Committee is also looking at this issue.

7.4. Jenny O'Regan asked for clarification on our asset list. Martyn reported that there is a list but it is probably out of date. Some of the equipment we have is irreplaceable and need to be carefully documented. The issue of insurance for the assets is under review.

The meeting: closed 8.55pm. . Next meeting **6th June 2018**