

MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES
Michigan Association of Railroad Passengers
21 May 2016
Jackson Carnegie Library
244 W Michigan Ave, Jackson MI 49201

Members Present: Clark Charnetski, Larry Krieg, Jeanie Merckel, Chuck Merckel, John Guidinger, Nick Little, Dan Platz, Jim Wallington, Rod Horton, Dirk Bartley, Kim Powell, Steve Vagnozzi, Jim Roach, John Langdon, Gerry Callison, Warren Fritz

Guest Present: Andreas Hoffrichter

The meeting was called to order by chair Larry Krieg at 10:12 AM. Members and guest were asked to introduce themselves.

Moved by John Langdon and seconded by Steve Vagnozzi to accept the order of business. Passed unanimously.

Financial Report:

Treasurer Jean Merckel reported April income from dues and donations from 34 new and renewing members for a total of \$844.00. Expenditures of \$618.87 included outreach materials, government affairs events, paypal fees, PO box rental, and member meeting expenses, leaving \$13,311.61 available for operations. The Pratt Fund (invested in Vanguard Index Fund VTSAX) was valued at \$18,454.62 as of 16 April 2016.

Moved by John Langdon and seconded by Warren Fritz to accept the financial report as presented.

Passed unanimously.

Announcements:

The next meeting will be on 11 June 2016 at the Dearborn Amtrak Station (John D. Dingell Intermodal Center) with a feature presentation by retired Secret Service agent Radford Jones. The subject will be Presidential travel by train.

There will be an Executive Committee meeting in July at the Ypsilanti District Library on Whittaker Rd.

The August meeting will be in Marquette in conjunction with the 4th Annual Michigan Rail Conference sponsored by Michigan Technological University. A motor coach may be obtained from Indian Trails for travel to the event.

The Annual Meeting will be held on September 24 at Durand Union Station. Former Meridian, Mississippi, mayor and Amtrak Board of Directors Chair John Robert Smith will be the featured speaker.

East Central report by Steve Vagnozzi:

A MARP outreach event will be held on Saturday, June 18, from 8:00 AM until 2:00 PM at the Meridian Farmers' Market near the Meridian Mall.

The MSU orientation web page will contain information on intercity transportation.

Steve is still working on the installation of wayfaring signs for the new East Lansing station.

Government Affairs report by John Langdon:

Amtrak is operating on the new summer schedule which reflects the effects of track work.

Chair Larry Krieg reminded members that vacancies still exist for Executive Committee positions of Secretary, East-Central Regional Chair and North Regional Chair.

Other Business

Gerry Callison presented an overview of work he has pursued on assembling track diagrams of Michigan rail lines using Google Earth. He illustrated his talk with live examples highlighting various tracks in different parts of the state.

A general discussion and small group breakout sessions were held concerning the MDOT Long Range Transportation Plan (2040). A June 2, 2016, deadline for individual comments to MDOT exists. Attendees also voted on issues that they considered important by placing colored sticky dots upon large posters.

Moved by John Guidinger and seconded by John Langdon to approve as written the minutes of the 21 May membership meeting. Passed unanimously without changes.

Moved by John Langdon and seconded by Warren Fritz to adjourn. Passed unanimously.

Adjourned at 12:57 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Clark Charnetski

Clark Charnetski

Larry Krieg

Larry Krieg, Chair