

Herbert Koch – President  
Edward Carter – Vice President  
Robert Ciolino – Treasurer  
Joseph Smolinski – Secretary



Directors: Swav Kojro  
Edward Zeglicz Jeff Mills  
James Ammirati Bill Trzaskus

**MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 7, 2023 MEETING  
OF THE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF THE  
CHICAGOLAND LIONEL RAILROAD CLUB**

The November 7, 2023 meeting of the board of directors of the Chicagoland Lionel Railroad Club, Inc. (CLRC) was held at the CLRC club house in New Lenox, Illinois. President Herb Koch called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Present when the meeting was called to order were: officers Herb Koch, Bob Ciolino, and Joe Smolinski. Also present when the meeting was called to order were directors Jeff Mills, Bill Trzaskus, Swav Kojro, and Ed Zeglicz. Vice President Ed Carter was absent. Herb Koch acted as secretary of the meeting.

The minutes of the September 5, 2023 board meeting having been previously approved by email, the board took up the balance of the consent agenda. In connection with the consent agenda the board unanimously approved a membership report by Bob Ciolino and the Treasurer's report by Bob Ciolino.

In his membership report Bob advised that as of November 7, 2023 the Club had 106 current Regular Members, 48 of whom have renewed and 19 current Long Distance Members, 13 of whom have renewed for a total of 125 members 61 of whom have renewed for 2024.

In his Treasurer's report Bob advised that as of November 6, 2023 the Club has \$39,138.79 cash on hand and the Commercial Brokerage Account has \$57,228.23. The total in both accounts is \$95,650.55.

Bob also reported that total receipts from the sale of items in the Flaherty collection were \$17,875.75 and that the Club had realized \$16,620.00 from the sale of items in the Walter Donation.

Bob advised that the 200 Lager Beer cars had cost the Club \$14,400.00 and that as of November 7, 2023 the Club had sold 65 cars which yielded \$5,215.00 in sales. Of the 65 cars sold 33 were car number 586 and 32 were car number 587. Of the 200 Lager Beer cars purchased from Lionel, we have 129 in stock ready to sell.

Herb advised that the parking area is to be respected. Herb urged members to parallel park when unloading, leave the area immediately thereafter and park on the street if our spaces are full.

Bob reported that several members had checked various venues for our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary party.

Venues submitted by Phil Partenach

Tazza \$44 with tax and tip Buffet and Family Style

La dolce Vita \$37 tax and tip Family Style

Venue submitted by Bill Trzaskus

Orland Chateau \$45, 4-hour cash bar tax and tip Family Style

Venue submitted by Bob Ciolino

Old Warsaw \$32 tax and tip 4 to 8 Buffet Saturday afternoon only, \$100 deposit

Bill Trzaskus moved to have the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner at the Old Warsaw. Herb Koch seconded the motion. Following discussion, the motion passed by a vote of 5 yes, and 3 no.

CLRC-LCCA Special Open House May 18, 2024 – Motion to have LCCA at May 18, 2024. Bob Ciolino Motioned, Bill Trzaskus Second. 8 yes, 0 no. Herb and Ed will continue to coordinate.

Bob Ciolino is going to check with Old Warsaw to see if the April 13, 2024 is available for our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary Party and will report back to the Board.

Tentative Dinner Schedule for Old Warsaw: Food at 4:00, Presentation at 5:00 was discussed and no final decision was made.

Following the discussion about the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary dinner a discussion was had about holding a special open house for LCCA members in conjunction with the Club's regularly scheduled May 18, 2024 open house during which LCCA members would be given free admission. Bob Ciolino moved that the Club hold such an open house for LCCA members on May 18, 2024. Bill Trzaskus seconded the motion. Following discussion, the motion passed by unanimous vote.

Bob Ciolino reported that there was nothing new regarding ideas to sell more of the Club's lager beer cars.

Prior to the meeting Secretary Joe Smolinski reminded board members that the Covid notification policy adopted by the Club last year had sunsetted and asked that reinstatement be placed on the agenda for the board meeting. Reinstatement of the Covid notification policy was placed on the agenda and taken up at the meeting. Following discussion no motion was made to reinstate the policy.

Joe Smolinski brought up the mentors program and will solicit existing members to act as mentors for new members.

The board then took up the question of a frequent visitor program and whether the Club has one. Bob Ciolino advised that frequent visitor cards were given out at our last Open House. Bill Trzaskus made a motion to continue the program which Bob Ciolino seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 6 yes, 2 no.

Herb Koch reported that Tom McGrath is developing a program for prototypical running of trains which is expected to be ready in January 2024. Tom McGrath will send a memo to members that will explain the program and ask for volunteers.

Joe Smolinski stated that we need to update the job descriptions for the jobs performed by each officer and director. Joe Smolinski will send out the current descriptions of the formal duties to Board Members so they can update them for the next Board Meeting.

Herb advised that for the second time he notified the owners association about the roof and gutter damage on our building and the need for repairs. Herb said he was told the repairs would be done, but noted that as of the day of meeting no repairs had even been started. (Update from Herb Koch regarding the repairs. Herb spoke with Terry Germany, Condominium President, after the meeting. Germany said he would contact the contractor to see when the contractor can schedule the gutter repair.)

A question was raised about who is liable in the event of the loss of the Club's trailer or its contents when, as it currently is, it is parked offsite. Bob Ciolino advised that liability for the trailer and its

contents is attached to the homeowner on whose property the trailer is parked. Bob Ciolino will ask our insurance agent if we can cover it.

Jeff would like to have our trailer stored at a commercial rental location. Jim Ammirati advised that he has a spot at a space at Trailer Storage Square Manhattan Monee Road and La Grange Road that he will sublease to the club for \$800 per year. Bob Ciolino motioned to use the space allocated at Trailer Storage Square at the stated annual rate.. Jeff Mills Second, motion passed. 8 yes, 0 no.

New Business:

Bob advised that Nick Purcell would like to take an electronics course at Joliet Jr. College and is asking us to sponsor him. We need Nick to get additional information, price, term, course content for further consideration.

Herb Koch advised that he asked the Condominium Association President to contact Comcast so Comcast can bring the Internet line to our building. Comcast requested this permission because the land around our building and the building are owned by the Condominium Association. The monthly cost is \$79.00 renewable annually. (Update. After the meeting Herb Koch spoke to Terry Germany, Condominium President. Terry advised that he would contact Comcast so it will be able to install a line for us to our building.)

January 9, 2024 is our next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 10:50

Herbert W. Koch