

# THE CLEARBOARD



Rod Diridon, President      <http://www.ctrc.org>      Larry Murchison, Editor

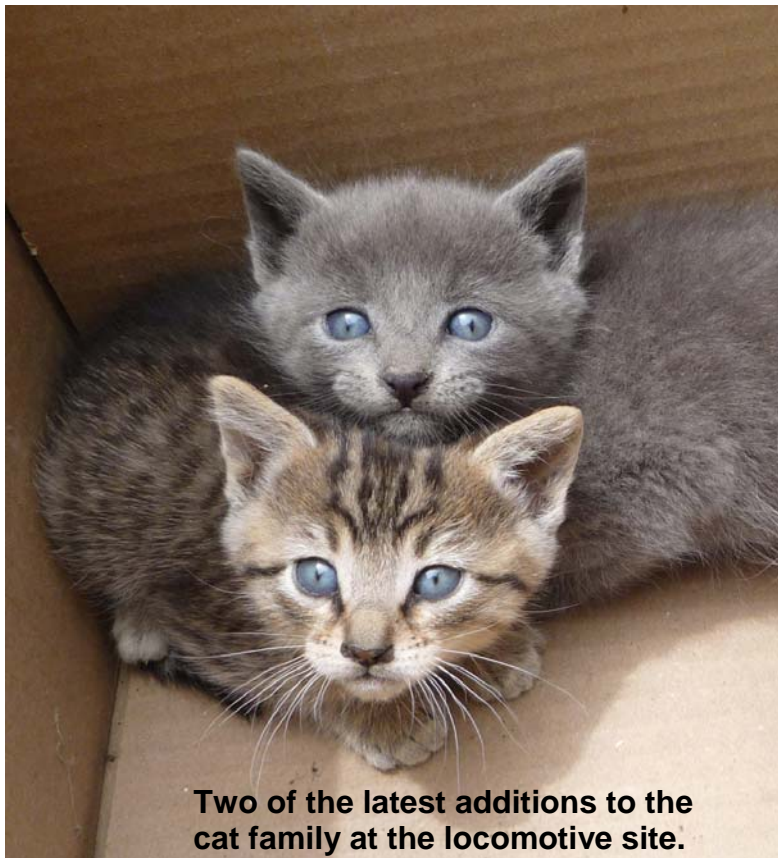


## DIRECTIONS, FROM ROD DIRIDON

**Annual CTCR Board Meeting and Recognition BBQ:** Since the early 1980's CTCR has held an annual meeting of the Board of Trustees and the Volunteer Recondition BBQ on the third Thursday afternoon of August. This year we'll celebrate another year of successes on August 18 at the History San Jose picnic area on the corner of Senter Road and Phelen Avenue.

The Board meeting begins at 3:00 in the historic Pacific Hotel with the BBQ to begin at 5:30 PM. The BBQ is sponsored again this year by **Hatch Mott McDonald, HNTB, Bottomley Distributors**, Santa Clara County Professional Firefighters Local 1165, **Singing Conductors**, and more.

Though we've enjoyed a very good year with many successes, the Board agrees that a new level of vigor, especially in fundraising, is needed. It's time to finish a couple of projects in process for decades such as Locomotive 2479 and the trolley system at Kelly Park. Those will take funding and an continuation of CTCR's remarkable volunteer efforts.



Two of the latest additions to the cat family at the locomotive site.

Please plan on attending both the Board meeting and the BBQ to help celebrate past successes and future challenges. Remember that, because of our fine sponsors, the BBQ is at no cost to volunteers and guests. It's a wonderful time to bring potential volunteers to meet the CTCR family. Please RSVP soon to Lynda Jones at [408 924 7561](tel:4089247561) or

[lynda.jones@sjsu.edu](mailto:lynda.jones@sjsu.edu).

Congratulations to all for another year of survive to our valley while protecting the best of the past to create a better future.



# CTRC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

**California Trolley & Railroad Corporation (CTRC)  
Board of Directors  
Meeting Minutes  
Pacific Hotel, History San Jose  
May 19, 2011**

**WELCOME** – Chair Rod Diridon called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m. at the Pacific History Hotel, 1650 Senter Road, San Jose, California.

**Attendance:** Marvin Bamburg, Alida Bray, Rod Diridon, Sr., David Ginsborg, Jim Helmer, Mike Kotowski, Joel Maniaci, Ken Middlebrook, Denis Murchison, Larry Murchison, Steve Raby, Bob Schneider, and Lynda Ramirez Jones

**MINUTES** – A motion was made and seconded (Middlebrook/Kotowski), and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of February 17, 2011.

## **CHAIR'S REPORT**

**Election of a new Board member** – Diridon introduced retired San Jose DOT Director Jim Helmer, an active member of the Institute of Transportation Engineers, and a professor in San Jose State University Master's Program for Mineta Transportation Institute. A motion was made and seconded (Bamburg/Schneider), and unanimously carried to approve Mr. Helmer as a new member of the CTRC Board.

## **FINANCIAL REPORT**

**P/L, Balance Sheet** – Diridon reported on the attached profit and loss statement and balance sheet in the agenda, noting that the books are audited every two years. A motion was made and seconded (Kotowski/Maniaci), and unanimously carried to approve the financial statements.

**General Liability Insurance Renewal** – Diridon announced that the CTRC liability insurance had been renewed for the period May 21, 2011 to May 21, 2012. He referred to the D&O (Directors & Officers) Liability insurance, which Board members had inquired about sometime ago. The corporation received a Certificate of Liability Insurance, insuring History San Jose, which appears to provide D&O Liability for the CTRC Board.

David Ginsborg arrived at 8:10 a.m.

Later in the meeting, Ms. Barbara Johnson, the insurance staff person for History San Jose (HSJ), addressed the group and announced that HSJ's Directors Liability insurance does not cover the CTRC Board. Diridon indicated he would look into obtaining D&O Liability insurance and report back at a future meeting.

## **CURRENT PROJECTS**

The agenda moved to item V-D.

**SCC Rail Museum** – Bamburg had nothing new to report. Diridon mentioned that he had spoken with Vice Mayor Madison Nguyen, who is interested in talking to the CTRC group, and prefers to wait until after the City of San Jose's budget hearings.

Diridon referred to an organization with interests in protecting railroads and which has been a major sponsor of High Speed Rail. He said he mentioned CTRC's need for a site and museum, and noted that the organization might be interested in becoming involved in what CTRC is doing.

**Lease Request from Willamette Shore Line Consortium** – Schneider reported that talks continue with the Consortium. They still need trestle and tunnel work done to get this project started, and the proposed trolley lease is still under review by the Consortium. They last met three weeks ago; did not make a decision; and they are still planning to acquire a trolley from Australia. Work on repairing their existing trolley has stopped, and currently they are in limbo. Schneider said that the Consortium might restart the project in the third quarter of this year, and we may have to wait until 2012.

Diridon referred to the history of CTRC's cars, some of which are at the VTA Light Rail Station on Younger Street and others are at the CTRC Trolley Barn. He stated that the intent of the agreement with VTA was that VTA would cover half the cost and the City of San Jose would cover the other half, or about \$200,000 each to operate one or two cars during the normal working day seven days a week. However, the operation of the four cars remaining with VTA have been discontinued because both VTA and San Jose are struggling with the current economy. Public relations efforts will be made to address encourage the reactivation of the historic trolley service when the economy improves.

Ginsborg suggested that perhaps the new CEO of the Silicon Valley/San Jose Chamber of Commerce, Michael Mahood, has experience in advocating railroad projects, might be able to assist in this project.

Diridon will schedule a meeting with Mahood, who has a seat on the CTRC Board by right of office, to discuss various CTRC activities.

**Trolley Barn** – Schneider presented the attached report.

Bamburg left the meeting at 8:35 a.m.

The Association of Railway Museum (ARM) Fall Conference was discussed. A motion was made, seconded (Schneider/Kotowski) and unanimously carried to approve \$2,000.00 total to be divided equally among the CTRC members who attend the ARM Fall Conference.

Middlebrook noted that over the past two years, ARM and TRAIN have been in discussions and identified how their work interacts with each other and are now talking about a merger between the two organizations.

**Locomotive 2479 and Locomotive 1215** – Middlebrook reported that he will be contacting the liaison provided by Diridon with Granite Construction regarding moving the caboos from Salinas to San Jose. Granite is ready for the move but needs a rigger to lift and secure the caboos on their truck. The caboos will be added to the Locomotive 1215 display. Steven Creek Quarry was to provide about 17 yards of ballast-size rock to complete the display. The contact at the Quarry is awaiting arrangements for the delivery.

Regarding Locomotive 2479, he said that a significant amount of work on the crosshead guides has been done on the right hand side of the train, and work is still in progress.

Ginsborg inquired about signage that is visible for CTRC, specifically Locomotive 1215. Bray responded that restrictions exist for signage around the park. Diridon suggested a temporary banner.

Ginsborg suggested a URL website linking users to CTRC's website.

Diridon requested L. Murchison to oversee the signage and URL issue and report back to the Board.

**Kelley Park Rail Stop – Benches and Signage** – Maniaci reported he met with VTA, who might have several surplus benches, but nothing definitive.

Helmer stated the City of San Jose might be another resource. Diridon asked Helmer to work with Maniaci on this project.

**Volunteers** – Middlebrook reported there were no changes from his last report. He commented that as of this month the volunteers meeting was changed from the first Tuesday night at the Santa Clara Depot to the first Saturday at either the 2479 site at the Fairgrounds or the Trolley Barn. Volunteers will be notified by e-mail of the location and time.

# LOCOMOTIVE NEWS



Preparing the recently acquired plainer for operation



Preparing the power crosshead



The 2479 with pilot attached.

← Tom Anderson using a unique boring bar setup to bore the upper crosshead guide mounting structure.

## From Bob Schneider

**FAMILY DAYS:** Attendance of the monthly Family Day based on our visitors has slowed down a bit, but numbers remain great: 497 trolley riders, 240 Barn visitors and 169 hand car riders on average for the first 6 events of the year.

**OPERATIONS:** The Happy Hollow Zoo new parking lot opened in May. That substantially reduced zoo visitors use of the parking lot at the end of Phelan and with it trolley riders.

For the summer weekend days History San Jose is charging visitors to enter History Park. Every effort is being made to have more buildings open and, in most cases, offer other activities. Effort is being made to sign up new members. Some days/events are free and some priced differently.

**VOLUNTEERS:** We have 11 qualified motormen and our 2 trainees have qualified as Conductors. Our challenge for the summer is vacations.

Steve Raby has been hired by HSJ to fill the recently vacated position in Facilities. His job does not preclude him from working in the Trolley Barn as a volunteer. Michael Bray is on the mend and now working 4 days/week. Once things settle down we're hoping to see Steve back as a Trolley Barn volunteer.

**SACRAMENTO:** We have been invited by the folks at the Sacramento State Railroad Museum to operate our Horse Car during their **Gold Rush Days** over the Labor Day weekend of 9/3-5. We operated the car at CSRM for Rail-fair '99.

This will be a great opportunity to operate the car for the public. I am working through the logistics of manpower, horsepower and transportation of the car. Initial discussion suggests that CSRM will cover many of the costs, but we shall see.

What we must provide is oversight of car transportation, operation and a crew of 2 to handle the job of Brakeman and Conductor. The horse person will handle the horse.

This is a very special invitation and opportunity to say the least. CSRM projects attendance to be 50,000 people over the 3 days. There are two minor concerns; This will be in hot weather, so we will plan accordingly. Our manpower will be stretched. Covering Sacramento is more than enough, but we must also cover the Tapestry Arts Festival on site Saturday and Sunday.

**NOTE: CSRM tells me as of 7/25 that they don't have final approval. Things may change next week.**

**TROLLEY LEASE:** Late in 2010 we were approached by the Willamette Shore Line Consortium from the Portland, Oregon area to lease one of our trolleys presently at VTA. Their only trolley was declared inoperable and they needed to continue service to preserve the rail right-of-way for future transit use. After 6 months of discussion, the consortium decided to pursue another solution for 2011. They may consider a lease for 2012. We are interested in doing this, but they had too many other factors to Work through.

### **HELPING OTHERS:**

WRM- three of us spent one day at Western Railway Museum helping during their maintenance week in May.

HSJ Education – We spent about 15 man-hours breaking up special mining rocks for their gold panning kits.

HSJ Facilities- We did a complete tune-up on the yellow fork lift. It had been many years since the last one, so the points were barely opening. It is still not running well enough.

Grounds – We helped prune trees around the Plaza. Many had branches as low as 6-8 feet off the roadway.

**Acquisitions** – no report.

**Historical Heritage Commission Grant Applications** - It was noted that CTCRC missed the deadline for this year but will need to focus on that opportunity for following years.

**Diridon Station Museum** – Bray reported that she is in the process of scheduling the remaining Mineta Airport item to be installed in the display. Diridon asked that the project completed by June 24 as the Secretary Mineta will be attending a meeting at the station on June 25.

(Ms. Beverly Johnson arrived to address the group regarding D&O Liability Insurance, as stated earlier under Item IV-B.)

Future Local Event – Middlebrook reported that he has been working with another group for an event to be held May 9-18, 2014, with an estimated attendance of 200,000-300,000 over a ten-day period. May 10, 2014 would be designated Train Day, and the event would include displays, exhibits, student excursions, etc. involving other jurisdictions, including the City of San Jose.

It was suggested that others be involved in this project, including Mike Scanlon, General Manager/CEO of San Mateo County Transit District; County of Santa Clara Supervisor Ken Yeager; and Rod Diridon. When the Middlebrook considers the time to be right, Diridon will invite those to be involved.

Middlebrook announced that the group is in the process of forming a 501(c)(3), with initial costs not to exceed \$2,000.00 and a Joint Powers Board for the event. He asked for a motion to set up a non-profit organization.

Kotowski asked whether the group had looked into getting a sponsor, such as United Pacific, Amtrak, or Metro in Los Angeles. Middlebrook noted thought that was a good idea and that it did occur in the past.

Maniaci left the meeting at 9:15 a.m.

Ginsborg left the meeting at 9:20 am

Following further discussion, a motion was made, seconded (Kotowski/L. Murchison), and unanimously carried to approve \$1,000.00 to assist the National Railroad Conference in forming a non-profit organization for the event.

**Fundraising** – Diridon announced that he is working toward getting additional sponsors for this year's Volunteer Recognition BBQ. He asked the group to think about projects that could be funded by the Historical Heritage Commission in its next grant cycle.

**V. New Business** - Bray announced that beginning June 4, History San Jose will begin charging admission for the season ending in November.

**Adjourn** – The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 a.m. to the next quarterly meeting at **3:00 p.m.** on Thursday, August 18, 2011, followed by the Annual Volunteer Recognition BBQ from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lynda Ramirez Jones



**Besides kittens we had a bunch of kit foxes adding to the zoo at the locomotive.**

## Information

Membership Meetings: First Saturday of each month at 10:00am at 2479 Healy Avenue, San Jose, the locomotive restoration site doublewide trailer.

Work Schedule: Saturday and Wednesday after work of each week.

CTRC Office: 1600 Senter Road, San Jose, CA 95112.

Mailing Address: CTCRC, c/o MTI, 210 N Fourth Street, 4th Floor, San Jose, CA 95112

Membership: \$25.00 regular, \$10.00 Seniors. All memberships expire December 31 yearly.

To join please send dues, name, address, phone number, and e-mail address if available to the mailing address above.

The CTCRC is a California 501(c)(3) not for profit educational corporation established in 1982. The organization is the official support group for the Trolley Barn at History San Jose and the San Jose Railroad Museum Park currently in the early stages of development.

## MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the California Trolley and Railroad Corporation (CTRC) is to restore, preserve and interpret railroad, trolley, and related equipment as it was used to serve the people in Santa Clara Valley, California.

## CTRC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Rod Diridon, Sr, **President & Founder**; **Executive Committee** are Marvin Bamberg, VP Design; Gene Martin, VP Grants; Ken Middlebrook, VP Volunteers; Larry Murchison, VP Communications; Bob Schneider, VP Trolleys; Jack Young, VP Locomotive; Annette Nellen, Treasurer; David Sylvia, Corp Secretary/Attorney; Lynda Ramirez Jones, Administrator. **Board Members** are Alida Bray, Michael Burns, Dick Campisi, Carl Cookson, Sr., John Davis, John Ezovski, , David K. Ginsborg, Bob Kieve, Rick Kitson, David Night, Mike Kotowski, Art Lloyd, Joel Maniaci, Kit Menkin, Denis Murchison, David Niederauer, Gary Ross, Sr., Tim Starbird, Neil Struthers, Leigh Weimers, Steve Whitaker, Beth Wyman, Charles Wynn.



## CTRC Staff:

President: Rod Diridon <diridon@mti.sjsu.edu>

Vice President: Ken Middlebrook <kamiddlebrook@comcast.net>

Motive Power: Jack Young <jyoung99@pacbell.net>

Electrical: Bob Paddleford <bobpadd2479@comcast.net>

Site Maintenance: Denis Murchison <dmurch@charter.net>

Equipment Maintenance: John Zielinski <johnz2@sbcglobal.net>

Technical Assistance: Art Randall <arandall@earthlink.net>

Historian: Larry Murchison <larrymurchison@comcast.net>

Editor: Larry Murchison <larrymurchison@comcast.net>

Treasurer: Annette Nellen

Membership: Gene Martin <trains4@attglobal.net>

Time Keeper: Hugh Crawford <hugh@hughcrawford.net>

Trolley Barn: Bob Schneider <schneiderri@att.net>

Acquisitions: Gary Ross <gary2479@aol.com>

Public Relations: Ken Middlebrook <kamiddlebrook@comcast.net>

Web Site: Karl Auerbach <karl@cavebear.com>

## COMING EVENTS

► Remember the Saturday workdays. Check with John Ezovski at SLBTrainer@aol.com for other work schedules including the 1215 beautification. All very important events. See you there.

► The first Monday of the month 10:00am CTCRC meeting at the Santa Clara Fair Grounds locomotive site. Be there for a lively discussion about something or you can just look at the displays.

► The next CTCRC board meeting will be Thursday, August 18th, 2011 at 3:00pm in the History San Jose Pacific Hotel first floor conference room



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