

TRAIN OF THOUGHT

MON VALLEY RAILROAD HISTORICAL SOCIETY, Inc.

November, 2025



EDITORS NOTE

November is National Model Railroad Month! This month to celebrate the World's Greatest Hobby began 54 years ago in 1971. We will kick off this celebration with a two day Open House on November 1 & 2, 2025. Please help us in any way you can.

Construction continues on all three of our model railroad layouts. Why not come and help us build them! Some of you have not been down to the society in quite a while and I think you will be amazed at our progress.

Our next open house will be for the holidays on December 13 & 14, 2025. I know it's getting close to the holiday's but, Please set aside some time to help out at this event.

Please take care of yourselves and your family. Hoping to see you soon.

Remember, Model Railroading is Fun!

Rich Henderson, Editor



Minutes of the October 2, 2025 Business Meeting

Call to order by Vice President Kenton C. at 7:00 pm with 10 members, including 5 officers, attending.

Minutes of the previous meeting:

Gary D. moved that we approve the minutes of the September 4th, 2025 business meeting as published in the October 2025 newsletter; seconded by Frank B. Approval was unanimous.

Treasurer's report: (Keith D.)

Expenditures exceeded income for the month but the Society remains in solid financial condition. Grant funds now in place will enable us to move forward with maintenance and renovation plans in the reception area of our space.

Publicity: (Rich H.)

Over 1,500 accounts now follow us on Facebook. Recent photos generated likes and shares. Public service announcements (PSAs) for the National Model Railroad Month Open House on November 1st and 2nd go out later this month. Flyers for the event are ready for distribution.

Fundraising: (Richard T.):

No report (Richard T. absent)

Meeting Minutes continued on Page 2

SCHEDULE of EVENTS

November 1 & 2, 2025

**National Model
Railroad Month
Open House**

Workers Needed!

November 6, 2025

Business Meeting

December 4, 2025

Business Meeting

**Holiday Model
Railroad Open House
December 13 & 14, 2025**

Workers Needed!

January 1, 2026

OP Session

January 8, 2026

Business Meeting



Minutes continued from Page 1

Membership (Rich H.):

Keith D. moved to accept Andrew L. as a new member with a second from Gary D. The membership present approved the motion unanimously with no further discussion. Previous member Gavin L. plans to rejoin.

Donations: (Rich H.):

Our previously unscheduled open house in conjunction with the Eloquence Antiques & Artisans flea market on September 26th brought numerous visitors to the Society as well as donations and purchases. Jon H. also reported modest online logo apparel sales during the month.

Facilities:

Jon H. reported that parts are in for energy monitors, ready to install. Work continues on ceiling tile replacement. Keith D. expects one additional quote on the carpet replacement in the front area of the O and N layout room. Quotes thus far have run high. Consensus now centers on a simple black / gray scheme since matching the existing carpet is impractical. Bids were solicited for new display cases in the lobby area. A carpenter bidding on the cases is due to visit October 15th.

Old Business:

Members only op session confirmed for October 18th, 9am til ... Gary D. expressed the need to refine communications, traffic flow and general problem solving ahead of the traditional January 1st op session.

Keith D. reported that new throttles needed for op sessions are on back order.

New Business:

Keith D. suggested a donation to the Play Room director's fundraising effort to start a new cafe

in the Mountaineer Mall. The cafe will offer coffee and pastries. Rich H. moved that the Society donate to the start up fund, seconded by Dave E. Approval was unanimous following discussion of the amount: \$150. Members are excited to have a food option in the Mall for future op sessions and the train show next March. Another new organization is expected to move into the Mall soon.

LAYOUTS:

O Gauge :(Rich H.)

More Sculptamold was laid down in the town area. A farm fence and animals were placed, and Ken. C donated a truck for the layout.

HO Scale:

Gary D. continues work on track / signal circuitry. Detectors are functioning where installed. Full interlocking is a ways in the future but progress in that direction is steady. West Allegheny staging track controls will be replicated at Greenbrier on the upper level. Track power buss and drop wires will be moved under the benchwork to accommodate the Valley Crossing bridge / viaduct. Eric H. began installing scenic materials on both levels opposite Valley Crossing.

N Scale Layout:

Wally V. reported progress on buildings and the backdrop.

For the Good of the Order:

Keith D. reported that Mall management has approved the Society's use of the concourse for the train show on March 15th, 2026. Neighboring business are cooperating and will not schedule conflicting activities. Tables are still needed and some may need to be purchased. Rentals may be available from a local VFD. Bill H. several that he can lend. Vendors will be able to bring their own. Promotional materials will need to go out soon,

including newspapers, paid Facebook ads, flyers to local hobby shops, e.g. Get A Hobby.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn by Jon H., seconded by Rich H. Meeting adjourned at 7:24pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Eric H., MVRHRS secretary



***Mon Valley Railroad
Historical Society
OFFICERS***

President

Richard Turton

Vice President

Kenton Colvin

Secretary

Eric Hopkins

Treasurer

Keith DeVault

Membership

Rich Henderson

Immediate Past President

Gary Deavers

Our Society Website:

<https://MVRHRS.org>

***Our Society
facebook page:***

[https://www.facebook.com/
MVRHRS](https://www.facebook.com/MVRHRS)