

Layout Meeting 5/21/22, 2:00 pm

Present: Jim Fenner, Craig Peterson, Eric Lalonde, Joe Albano, George Nielsen, Nick Carbone, Larry Roberts

New England Milling Area:

- Jim – explained Matt wants to leave out other industries so that the loop can be as big as possible.
- Jim – his opinion no need to have the biggest possible – can't hold a whole train no matter what we do.
- Larry - need to have the loop roughly parallel to the pond - if too far left would look offset, not like reality. It's all a balancing act, but we can't squeeze out Catania-Spagna just to make the loop a little bigger
- Jim - we don't need easements. Eric indicated on the plywood the end of the building location.
- Agreed we keep the loop as close as possible to the mill and do Catania - Spagna as an open two track, at whatever location works best. By keeping it two tracks, we leave some more space for the loop.
- Jim will pin down and lay it out with number 6 Atlas turnouts slightly tweaked to bend.
- Agreed turnout and track parallel to the Stony Brook in front will lead to weeds - forget Martin Brower and Silpro – we can't make them look right.
- Agreed we need to revise lights so as to avoid shadows, and put in a couple further back. Jim says this can be done after the mill is in. Larry has concerns about this would like to see it done first.
- Need to revise cleats to level up the plywood before putting in track.
- Jim will run a 12-volt line to power the mill lighting
- Eric says about a month until mill is done. (See photos below)

XO - Mechanicville

- Joe showed alternate plans as fully mocked up with track.
- Matt's preference has the double track end at Noonan's east of Mechanicville, with only a connection from the single track main at the diamond in front of XO tower to the former D&H line, which would then cross a bridge over the aisle to a switching branch line on the outer wall.
- Joe's preference is a crossover at Noonan's with the double track continuing, then the outer track merging with the branch just before the bridge.
- Joe showed photos of the XO diamond from back in the day showing the second track as he prefers.
- Joe outlined signals - No signal outside track until Noonan's. There will be a dwarf to get out, 3 head to get in. So, no problem with setting up the signaling
- Coming out of branch would be no signal - call dispatch when you reach the west end of the bridge across the aisle.
- Need a touch toggle and a switch 8 until we have detection.

- Matt does not like the plan with the second track as he thinks it would not add anything - but Joe says it would help – flexibility for the dispatcher as a local could run wrong rail to Ferry Street if needed with the second track he proposes.
- Larry indicated his feeling is that the person doing the work gets to choose, so long as it's doable and does not violate our overall plan and any essential need such as signaling
- Agreed there will be accident protection - unless bridge in place no power, a positive pin stop too, to prevent any roll-off with keep-alives.
- All agreed to go with Joe's preferred plan.
- Joe will use his template as a jig to develop parts for a fully curved crossover.
- Had a timing discussion
 - Do all Noonan's crossover stuff first since the change at Mechanicville would make track 1 inaccessible.
 - Joe will make a template this afternoon so he can construct the parts for curved crossover.
 - Jim - suggests put in temporary Noonan's crossover with modified regular switches which would let the revision at Mechanicville go forward.
- George asked what about signals - they will have to be revised. He's ok with that.
- Joe found RR circuits - bought LED's with just the right color. Uses Atlas GP9 lens.

Next Layout meeting tentative agenda:

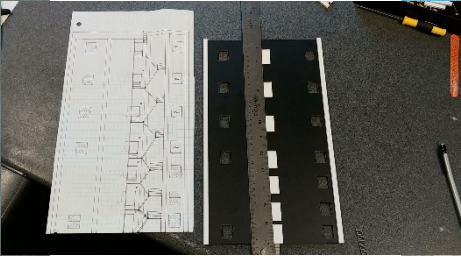
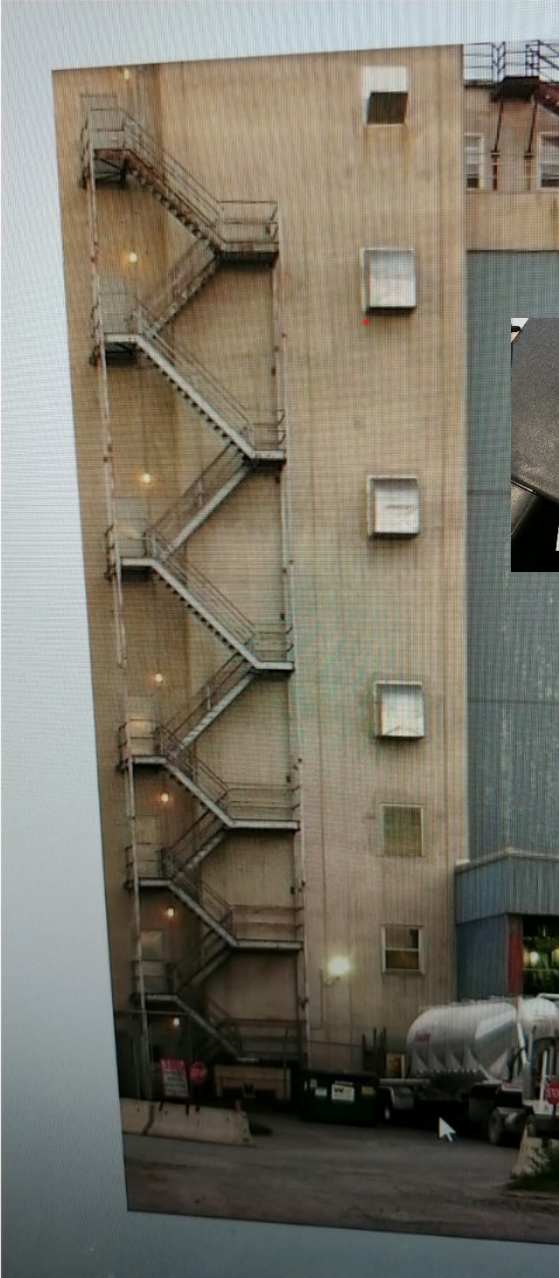
- Review track plan in NEM after Jim lays it out
- Electrical Update
- Cab bus testing status
- Anyone willing to take on other sections
- Gardner status

Some progress photos this month leading up to the meeting:

Eric's made fantastic progress on the mill. Here are just some of his photos:



Here we see the process – real mill to left, drawing middle with wall laid out, Eric’s version to the right.
Way to go Eric!





Joe's Progress between Mechanicville and Noonan's (this a little later photo as it shows the Noonan's crossover in, but you can see the bridge location and the tail track of the D&H disappearing). First layer



grass all in – all the way to the bridge, bridge abutments laid out, road base made.

Agenda for Next Meeting 5/21/22

- Issue with plug-ins resolved?
- Any new problems track or electrical?
- Scenery
 - Progress on currently assigned locations
 - Mechanicville
 - Volunteers for unassigned areas

- Tree discussion
- Please communicate with Jim and Larry any items you would like added to the meeting agenda.