

**HCRA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
January 22, 2020**

Attendees:

President – W1AST (Larry)	ZeroBeat Ed. - N1JIE (John)
Vice President – W1IRL (Vanessa)	Program Dir – Open
Secretary – NF1G (Paul)	At Large – (WA1OJN) Bob
Tech. Dir. - AB1ZA (Najm)	Treasurer – NV1Q (Juergen)

Absent:

Membership – K1VOI (John) (Report sent)

----- Meeting open at 7:00pm by President, Larry (W1AST) -----

President Report:

- Larry is revising the new ham booklet to make it less expensive to print
- Larry will begin planning a bus trip. Expected to take place in the Spring with visits to Marconi Museum, French Cable Museum, Marconi site and dinner on Cape Cod.
- Larry attended the ARRL Cabinet meeting (**see addendum**)
- Discussion took place regarding a Booklet for the mentoring of new hams and whether to produce in hardcopy or place on website.
- Acting as Program Director, Larry has filled all the meetings until June of 2020.

Vice President Report:

- Vanessa is working on demo sessions (Mini “Share the Knowledge”) for 7:00-7:25pm just before our meetings. Present schedule is as follows:

- February – Intro to VHF/UHF (N1FTP)
- March – Setting up an HF station
- April – Identifying Fake Emails
- May – Using Antenna tuners

Secretary Report:

- Last months BOD minutes for approval: **Motion Y Accepted: 6 Opposed: 0 Carried: YES**
- Paul provided a calendar to each of the Board members which listed all the critical dates for renewals/ filings required by HCRA as an organization. This had been prepared by Harold, N1FJP, and Paul thought it would be useful for all Board members to be aware of these items regardless of their individual responsibilities.

Treasurer Report: October 2019 Statement:

Beginning Balance:	\$6,853.33
Ending Balance:	\$6,863.47
Income:	
Dues	\$60.00
Donuts	\$31.38
Total income:	\$91.38
Expense:	
Donuts	\$52.00
QSL Service	\$19.50
QSL Service-Postage	\$9.74
Total Expenses:	\$81.24

Program Director Report:

- February, Bob K1YO, ARES and its recent come back in Western Massachusetts.
- March, Rob Macedo KC1DY, talks all about Skywarn and how important it is to weather tracking.
- April, Show & Tell
- May, Marty Sullaway, NN1C, Team Exuberance – teens and contesting.
- June, Elections, FD, and more...

Membership Report:

- 115 total including 18 prospects, and 85 regular paid members. This includes 14 new members.
- Estimated number of HCRA members who are ARRL members: 65
- September is renewal month. To be resolved whether to mail reminder postcards in early August.

Technical Director Report:

- Najm is working on an introduction to “Chirp”, a program that can program certain radios.
- As a project, he is also looking at building a solar powered FM radio.
- Potential demonstration of use of Spectrum Analyzer in the Fall
- Share the Knowledge session on use of Arduino. Scheduled for May 16, 2020 with deadline for signup by April 3rd.

ZeroBeat Editor:

- Note to all, please submit articles for ZeroBeat by the 20th of the month.

At Large Report:

- Bob and Juergen are planning a kit building session on April 25th for the construction of a CW Decoder. Deadline for signup will be April 3rd to allow time for ordering parts based on level of interest. Will be advertised in ZeroBeat, website and email to members.

Webmaster Report:

- Discussion took place regarding whether to have a “Members Only” section on our website for such items as Board meeting minutes and financial reports as these are somewhat proprietary items which perhaps should not be shared with the public. Vanessa to investigate the process for setting up such a section.

New Business:

- Some discussion of Holiday Party and whether to reevaluate timing, location and partnership with MTARA.
- HCRA will be hosting a Tech Session on March 21st and 22nd at Holyoke Medical Center. Emails will be sent to members as well as posting to website and Facebook as well as other media to advertise and get the word out as well as signup deadline. Need commitments from possible instructors as well.

Old Business:

- Are there any alternative locations in the West Springfield area which is central to all the board members to have the BOD meetings? Suggestions?

Next Club meeting: February 7, 2020 at Holyoke Hospital at 7:30 pm
Next Board of Directors meeting: February 19, 2020 at Hooters in West Springfield. 6:00 pm for dinner, 7:00 pm for the meeting.

----- Meeting closed at 8:50 pm -----

Addendum



Notes from the January 2020 ARRL New England Cabinet Meeting

1. Talk on clubs, are they still relevant, active, growing, meetings and more.
 - A. Fred, AB1OC gave a talk on how the Nashua Club; N1FD; has completely rebuilt itself in the last 4 years. So much so that they were the ARRL club of the year in 2019. He went thru some of the things that works for his club:
 - a. Interesting meetings get 50 to 60 people attending
 - b. Classes 2 to 3 times a year is building membership
 - c. After class tech sessions mentoring groups of new hams
 - d. Blackstone Valley ham club reported success with new hams too: www.w1ddd.org
 - e. New England Sci Tech has a successful ham class : <https://www.nescitech.org/>
 - f. HCRA has the 2nd best meeting attendance of the 30 clubs attending the cabinet meeting, all other clubs less to much, much less
 - g. and more

2. Discussion on reaching out to preppers to teach ham radio possibly. Reseach is being done to find out more

3. Discussion on training people for ARES. A NH team has a class they will teach at Boxboro.

4. Brief discussion on tower safety. Visit: www.zerofalls.org

Location: Springfield Tower Square Hotel, soon to be the Marriot. Free parking, lunch was \$13 (was good).

Next cabinet meeting may be in July 2020 in the Lowell area.