

HCRA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

December 23, 2020

Meeting Began 7:03 PM (via Zoom)

Attendees:

President – W1AST Larry

Vice President – AA1WH Marcel

Tech. Dir. – AB1ZA Najm

Membership – K1VOI John

Secretary – NF1G Paul

ZeroBeat – N1JIE John

At Large – WA1OJN Bob

Program Dir. – AA1UE Gary

Treasurer – KC1FQV Duane

Unable to Attend:

President's Report: W1AST

- Larry continues to receive emails and leads from people interested in becoming hams. Motion made to put our new Ham Welcome Guide on our website – Voted and Approved
- Looking for projects or job ideas to engage non-BOD members. Suggestion discussed having appointing member-leaders for various areas of interest for members such as, N1MM, N3FPJ, DXLabs software and topics of interest such as Foxhunting, DX, Award Chasing and other areas as noted on member applications. These members could serve as points of contact for members showing interest in such topics to learn more about it.
- Enabled breakout rooms within Zoom. Discussion centered on future uses such as mini-Share the Knowledge sessions, other topics. Would be scheduled on nights other than meeting nights. Length of 30 -45 minutes. Record and post to website.

Vice President's Report: AA1WH

- Continued discussion regarding a possible balloon project involving high altitude, long distance, solar powered balloon project looking toward February launch.
- 10 Meter net has 10 -12 check-ins per week. Topics are well received. SSTV has followed after the net and several people have shown interest.
- Suggested possibly inviting Bob Heil, K9AID, for a future club presentation.
- Discussed setting firm dates, twice per year, for changing critical passwords.

Secretary's Report: NF1G

- Paul is undertaking two related projects. One is to update the Board member job descriptions and the second is to draft a Transition Procedures Checklist for use when Board members change. Paul reminded Board members to submit information for this project. Marcel has agreed to assist in this project.

Treasurer's Report: KC1FQV

Balance per bank, October 1, 2020 \$7,756.56

Income

Dues, net of Paypal fees 157.60

Expenses

Postage (18.50)

Balance per bank, September 30, 2020 \$7,899.81

Program Director's Report: AA1UE

- Nov: SDR & Flex Radio (NT1K)
- Dec: Virtual Holiday Gathering - Guest speaker Fred Hopengarten K1VR
ARRL NE Division Director
- Jan: Award Chasing (N1FTP)
- Feb: Fox Hunting Techniques & Gear
- Mar: ClubLog: What is it and What Can You Do With IT?
- April: Show & Tell
- May: Talking to the ISS
- June: Elections and Field Day

Membership Report: K1VOI

Total Members: 120

Regular Members: 98

Prospects: 7

Life: 4

Family: 11

- Use of PayPal and online renewals/applications working well so far. Approximately 70% of renewals have been through use of PayPal. The few remaining non-renewal members were contacted to encourage renewal with 6 positive responses so far.
- Discussed and agreed that new members (who join at varying times) would get credited for the following year on a "one-time only" basis.

At Large: WA1OJN

- Bob is making up CW Reader kits from parts supplied by Juergen and arrangements will be made to get them to people who have paid. Testing is underway and, when completed, kits will be sent out. If there are extra kits membership will be notified. Possibility of a Zoom class to assist in completion of kits.
- Bob is attempting to debug the Fox Box so as to restore operability.

Technical: AB1ZA

- Najm to develop qualifying criteria for future Show & Tell and will publish in January/February ZeroBeat
- Looking to possibly reestablish "Mini" Share the Knowledge sessions prior to monthly meetings through use of Zoom "rooms" set up for that purpose. More information to follow as to times and format Najm has developed an Arduino video demonstration for future presentation.

ZeroBeat: N1JIE

- ZeroBeat to remind/encourage renewals.
- Youtube and meeting video link to be published in each issue.
- ZB receiving compliments from many sources including Asst.NE Director for ARRL

WebSite:

- Need to find someone with Wordpress knowledge to assist Vanessa
- YouTube Channel usage showing good demand.
<https://www.youtube.com/user/HampdenCountyRA>. More info in next ZB.
- Vanessa to be invited to future Board meetings as her schedule permits.

New Business:

- N1TA doing a Wednesday night Tech class from 7 to 9 PM plus 30 minutes before and after the class for discussion. Is being publicized by FB, website, email and word of mouth.
- Gary, KC1JZR has volunteered to serve as new net control for Thursday night "newbie" net. Net to restart on January 14, 2021 on 146.715 (W1BR rptr) beginning at 7 PM. (Open to all new hams and all HCRA members)
- Given lack of in person meetings we need to continually mention club activities in meetings and on the Nets

Old Business:

- FoxBox 2 in testing/debug stage

Next Club Meeting: Friday, January 8, 2021 at 7:30 PM (via Zoom)

Next Board Meeting: Wednesday, January 20, 2021 at 7:00 PM (via Zoom)

Meeting Adjourned: 8:25 PM