

WAARC Minutes 1.21.2021 Monthly Meeting

Attendees: Lynn NOXOB, Richard KE0YYI, Hank W6IR, Michael WOHAJ, Bill KCOWGF, Jim KE0UYX, Steve KR0TZ, Craig KCOYHU, Barb K0ONEZ, Mark AB0DX, Bruce WB0GAG, Jeff Dieleman – guest

Approval of Minutes

- Minutes from December meeting were accepted as presented

Monthly Financials

- Monthly financial reports (12-1-2020 through 1-15-2021) presented by Michael and accepted (with one correction from W6IR concerning a label with the wrong year)

Announcements

- VE Examinations
 - 16 candidates (8 walk-ins) 11 new techs, 3 general upgrades, 1 new general
 - 4 VEs present (Lynn, Mark, Howard, and Jim Meade)
 - Too many walk-ins to handle all at once - will try to get gymnasium for March exam and consider updating the event details to exclude walk-ins.
 - Next exam tentatively scheduled for 3/6 pending room reservation.
 - Bruce has updated club website concerning changes such as the new FRN requirement, and Mark also has a handout prepared for people who appear for testing without one.
- Trailer update
 - New tower section has arrived and Michael will bring it for Winter Field Day.
 - Lynn suggested that we buy blue tarps to cover trailer: Mark pointed out that the equipment on the trailer is protected from the weather – we may want to seal some of the floorboards this Spring.
 - Battery cables with PowerPoles were purchased for each of the tower trailers and will be kept in a box on each trailer.
 - We retained a snow-removal service to clear access to the utility trailer after the heavy snow/ice we received earlier in the month. We agreed to pay \$20 each time that we ask him for snow removal to be paid at the end of each month.
- Winter Field Day
 - January 30-31 at Marr Park shelter #1, which is a heated shelter we've used in the past.
 - Mark has been promoting through Facebook and Net Newsletter
 - Set up Saturday around 8:00 AM, event starting at 1:00 PM and ending Sunday at 1:00 PM
 - Terry will be cooking hot meals, hot breakfast at 7:30 Saturday and Sunday and lunch at noon both days. Soup supper planned for 5:00 PM Saturday. Donations will be accepted.
 - Mark reviewed the Winter Field Day guidelines
 - Plan to set up both tower trailers and run a wire antenna between them, and set up the two verticals on ground-mounted hubs as well as a VHF talk-in.
 - Masks are expected to be worn, and hand sanitizer will be provided.

- Bruce asked whether Ainsworth fire department has been invited – Lynn offered to notify them.
- Mark emphasized the value of Winter Field Day as a learning experience for newer hams.
- Other
 - Hank asked whether we were collecting e-mail addresses of newly-licensed hams from the VE sessions: Mark said that yes, he is collecting these so that we can invite them to WAARC meetings and functions.
 - Mark mentioned that the ARRL is offering more and more webinars that can be accessed in real time or viewed later. One upcoming webinar focuses on ham radio and weather spotting. They also have a new magazine option focused on newer hams (called “On the Air”). Go to ARRL.ORG for more information.
 - Next meeting will be February 18th.
 - Mark mentioned that we are still working on locating permanent locations for the trailers, and appreciate the members who have volunteered temporary storage locations.

Motion to adjourn meeting made by Steve. Hank seconded. Motion carried, and meeting closed at 8:35 PM.