

AARC Board Meeting Minutes
2/8/2020
Meeting Room at Northside Library

AARC Board members attending:

Ed Berkowitz (President-presiding meeting), Larry Eicher (VP), Don Eason (Treasurer), Stephen Kramer (Sec'y), John Porter (Public Service), Jim Owens (Estate Sales).

Meeting called to order at 10 AM.

Ed discussed change in technical committee with Gordon Winn taking over from Bill Pond. Bill has some club test equipment. Gordon doesn't want club equipment stored at his home. He has his own test equipment. Some discussion about renting storage rooms at \$100 - \$120 per month. Concern expressed by some that once equipment goes in storage rooms people tend to forget about the equipment. Ed will look into cost of rental spaces. It was also suggested that some of club equipment could be sold.

Estate Sales – Jim Owens:

Jim said he has very little equipment from estate sales. What we do have needs to be checked out and cleaned up. Club made \$250 from table sales at Frostfest.

Public Service – John Porter:

He will send emails to event organizers of events the club helped with in past years. Main event is Jefferson Cup Bike Race which is a challenging event to support.

Antenna Committee – Ed Berkowitz:

The Red Cross is redoing their roof and requested that we assist with removal of VHF antenna that we installed for the Red Cross several years ago.

Larry suggested an email be sent to club members asking for volunteers to serve on antenna committee.

Other items discussed:

Ed said 70% of members have renewed for 2020. John said he will send a reminder email to list of members who have not renewed yet.

PVCC Professor Scott Kordella will bring his student who was awarded a club \$500 scholarship to next meeting. Ed asked that we can ask Scott how we should issue the check.

Don is preparing email listing Treasurer tasks in detail and will send email to whoever takes expresses an interest in taking over as treasurer. Don also would like to change banks from BBT to some other bank that offers better deal (no service fees). He stated

that our club pays no taxes since we are under \$50,000 in annual receipts. There is a \$25 registration fee with Virginia. We have an attorney of record for legal filings at no charge.

Larry said he has prepared a tentative list of speakers for this year. List is attached to the minutes.

Ed will speak with Bob Romanko about Field Day. Mentioned doing practice setup of new antennas. Larry suggested doing planning and a drawing showing layout of FD setup and where antennas should go.

Included are discussion points from Ed in separate email to Bob Romanko:

1. Perhaps the Antenna Team with help from other members should conduct a practice antenna raising party at our FD location well in advance of FD. This would also allow new Antenna Team members to learn and get some practice. We can optimize our orientation of a wire antennas reference the configuration of trees, etc. The consensus was that the Hex beam owned by the club works well now that we are getting it up higher.

2. Well in advance of FD, the FD team needs to review all the available Bonus points available. For example, one Board member said had he realized in advance that we could have collected additional points for one email sent by Winlink, he would have brought his Winlink equipment. What am I trying to say: all FD team members needs to be open minded about ways to earn bonus points especially if it is a new endeavor that we are not personally familiar with.

ARES:

Discussion about ARES status in VA. Six club members working on mesh network using mobile equipment.

John attended ARES meeting at Frostfest. Jack Smith is head of state ARES. They are working on new strategic plan. ARES districts in VA reduced from 15 to 6 districts. VA has 139 entities that need emergency coordinators. Mike McPherson has stepped down as ARES EC for Albemarle County. Now we have a rotating EC.

Reminder that VA QSO party is March 21-22.

Discussion of Quarter Century Wireless Association and its activities.

Some discussion about HOA covenants restricting outside antennas.

Board meeting adjourned at 11:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Stephen Kramer, Secretary

**Tentative List of Speakers for 2020
Albemarle Amateur Radio Club. As of February 8, 2020**

January. Elections

February Tim Miller KG4HOT talking on 220 MHz repeaters

March. Mike McPherson KQ9P talking on MESH communication/updates

April. Jim Owen K4CGY talking on N3FJP software use prior to June Field Day operation

Dennis Terribile WR4I to speak on CW Field Day operation to encourage more activity. About ½ hour for each Owen and Terribile

Bob Romanko AK4BR with short talk on need for committee members on the FD committees

May. Joe DeVincentes KO8V and Kevin Cwina K4SHR. Talking on Digital mode for Field Day.

June. Bob Romanko AK4BR reviewing Field Day preparations and FD committee reports

July. Michael Ellington KN4BFB to speak on a new ham related design he is working on

Talks for August, October and November are still to be determined although we have suggested topics and speakers such as:

Greg Butler speaking on WINLINK

Possible talk on vision of new ECC Director as it relates to ham radio

Talk by professor on scholarship opportunities from AARC to help community college students

No speakers scheduled for either September or December. September is our annual picnic; whereas December is our annual awards banquet.

Larry Eicher K4JZQ. VP and Program Director