

## **AARC Meeting Minutes February 14, 2023**

Meeting started at 7 PM by Bob Romanko, president presiding. Meeting held at Northside Library.

Note that monthly meetings for February, March and May 2023 will be held at Northside Library, 705 West Rio Rd, Charlottesville, VA 22901 at 7 pm in large meeting room on the right at top of stairs.

Treasurer's Report - Larry Eicher:

Good response for membership renewals. Estate sales also contributed to income.

Balance in checking account: \$38,068.65.

No anticipated expenses.

Public Service Report - Dave Damon:

Two events this spring: May 6, Rock Ridge Gravel Grinder in Augusta and Rockbridge counties at 10 AM.

May 13, Ride to defeat ALS. There will be 1/4, 1/2, century and family fun rides.

Education Report - Bob Pattison:

Meeting of education committee on May 22nd at 7 pm. It will discuss what class they want to teach and when.

Public Relations - no report.

Estate Committee Report - Ed Berkowitz:

Club members should check swapfest on website regularly for newly added equipment for sale. Plans to sell equipment from estate of Michael Rein.

Jim Owen said he is working on fixing up old equipment. He has line of Heathkit gear that needs cleanup.

Technical Committee Report - Bill Pond:

Fixed some minor problems. Prepared configuration changes on repeater controller. He makes configuration on one and will roll it to other repeaters. Changed to net mode changes timeout from 1 minute to 10 minutes. Moved courtesy tone to N-. Fixes blackout problem.

Report by Bill Pond on purchasing and installing new antennas at Bucks Elbow repeater location.

The county ECC is done with new tower and facility at Bucks Elbow. The current 146.895 antenna is broken. Repeater supports packet mode and is not used. Antenna was moved to WINLINK and failed.

We can now install new antennas on new tower. Committee now making plans for migrating antenna to tower. Also, equipment will be moved from old shack to new facility provided by county.

County gave us date when we can move to new facility in April.

Plans are to purchase commercial quality, dual-band Sinclair antennas from Tesco. These are 2-bay UHF and 2-bay VHF on mounting posts. Antennas will be used for WINLINK and 146.895 using 2 separate feeds. Using commercial grade antennas means they can handle high winds, ice and other severe weather conditions. They are less likely to need frequent repairs or replacement.

Site planning is done and committee is prepared to do install when antennas are delivered. Leadtime is 6-8 weeks for delivery.

Cost estimate for 2 antennas: \$3930. Labor to install antennas on tower is not included in this quote. No install bid yet.

Any club expense greater than \$500 has to go to vote by membership, 20 members present is quorum and quorum is present tonight.

Discussion followed.

Mike McPherson said why we should support repeaters and Emergency comm's. We would like local Ecomm government on our side for spectrum fight. Reminded us that emergency communications is one of the main justifications for amateur radio.

Warren made motion to approve expense for antennas, Joe P seconded motion. Vote nearly all approved, 1 opposed ( Larry E.).

New Members: none. We should purge club members list of non-renewals. Bob R. said he would send email reminding members to renew.

Presentation about CNC by Ben Kidd, KG4EIF, via Zoom:

Ben announced ARRL school club roundup this Thursday, at 3:30 pm at Baker Butler elementary school on 146.54 FM and on 40 m, 7.225-7.255 Mhz SSB.

CNC stands for Computer Numerical Control. Controls machine tools and automates process of making parts. Instructions are stored digitally. He reviewed history of CNC. There are 2 types of XYZ machines, e.g. router, laser, plasma and paper cutters. Also, rotational machine. Works in plastic which is cheaper. He showed some overhead slides showing process of design and building of 3D parts.

Presentation is attached as pdf file below.

Meeting adjourned at 8:27 PM by Bob Romanko.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Kramer  
Secretary

Meeting attendees (24):

Bob Romanko	AK4BR
Larry Eicher	K4JZQ
Steve Kramer	KN4CJI
John Porter	KK4JP
Bill Pond	N0WP
Bob Pattison	K4DU
Dave Damon	K4DND
Ed Berkowitz	N3US
Dennis Mennerich	K4THE
Mike McPherson	KQ9P
Al Bogden	KF4AGT
Joe Giavanelli	W2PVY
Bill Phillips	AD6JV
Bob Mitchell	KE4VJW
Ben Kidd	KG4EIF
Ben's children	guests
Bill Oleksy	KF4IE
Ron Richey	K4RKA
Frank Haynes	W4NUA
James Owen	K4CGY
Warren Yusif	KN4LYF
Joe Devincentis	K08V
Michael Ellington	KN4BFB
Allen Graves	AG4VA
Lambraia	guest