

Minutes for February 2016 Club Meeting

Lowell Amateur Radio Club Monthly Meeting – 02/13/16

Meeting Called to order: 10:02am

Officers Present: 6

(x) President & (x) Vice-President

(x) Treasure, & (x) Secretary

(x) Tech Advisors (Daniel)

() Web Master & (x) PIO

Number of Members Present: 14

Number of Guest Attended: 2

Meeting opened with a 45 minute presentation from Mark Weaver about the National Scenic Trail and NPOTA. A special thank-you and a welcome packet were given to Mr. Weaver.

Secretaries Report: (x) Read – () Amended – (x) Approved

Treasures Report: (x) Read – (x) Approved

- Dues Paid: 44 (2/13/16).

- Diamond Sponsors: 8

- Insurance of equipment was paid

Techs. Report: (x) Read – (x) Approved

- Allstar node installed, possible interference intentionally on repeater, IRLP/Echolink working (some cell carriers drop connections worse than others), Making a list of DTMF commands will be published to website.

- Discussion was held on audio level on repeater. Determined to be a problem with the AGC. Nathan looking into solutions.

Web Master Report: Webmaster has resigned, new webmaster is needed.

- Minutes are being placed on the website

Public Information Officer Report:

- Reported that HARC, GRARA, LARC and MARA are all sponsors for the Get out of cabin dinner.

- Provided handout for IRA hamfest

Old Business:

- Bylaw Revision – Proposal #1, VOTE was held and FAILED.

- Bylaw Revision – Proposal #2, VOTE was held and FAILED.

- Discussion was held to have Del and Dave work to combine into 1 easy to all vote YES proposal for March meeting that everyone can agree on.

- NPOTA – was activated Feb. 6th. Let's do it again.

- Skywarn Signup by Feb. 26th

- Reminder about Get out of the cabin dinner – Saturday Feb, 27th 1:30PM EST.

New Business:

- A submission to hold a recall election was received and processed by the Secretary. A recall election will be held for Frank N8UVI for the position of Technical Advisor at the March monthly meeting.

- New key card system installed at FROM without warning. Current cards will open radio room only. New cards will be issued for external access, but have not been received yet. It is being explored if new exterior cards can be used with the radio room locking system. Updates to follow at March meeting.

- Nathan and Mike are reviewing the insured equipment items to see about reducing expense.

- Reminder 160m contest Feb. 26-28

- Discussion about FROM location to continue. Informal meeting will be chaired by treasurer Mike on Thursday Feb. 25th. Minutes will be kept and open discussion and dialogue had. Mike will bring budget and current officer recommendations. It is recommended if we go to do an RFI study of any new locations, this was agreed on.

- Jack NY8D reminded everyone of the LARC tables next to GRARA this year. You may sell items and help man the tables as possible. The cost is \$100 reimbursed to Jack. Motion was made to spend the \$100, 2nd to motion and passed. Dayton Hamvention May 13-15. Jack will have 6 spare fleamarket/general

admission tickets for those involved with the fleamarket. \$20 each, first come first served.

- Jack showed an example of a NPOTA banner available from the ARRL for \$50. Hank recommended we see about getting an actual North Country Trail one. Jack and Hank will look into cost of that and let us know. No decision was finalized.
- Jack advised he has created 9 welcome packets and sent them out to new hams in the area. Additional welcome packets are available in the club radio room desk.
- Lowell River Walk is to be held July 7-9. Discussion was held about having a table. Cost is \$60 or we can join the Chamber for \$100 annually. Thinking about it and discuss closer to the event.
- Daniel – KD8WYS – Made an announcement and read a brief statement that he was resigning from the positions of Vice President and Technical Advisor effective immediately. The remaining board is looking for members who wish to fill this position prior to the March meeting. Please let someone know if interested.
- Bobbie – KD8WZI – After some discussion, resigned from the position of Secretary of the club. The remaining board is looking for members who wish to fill this position prior to the March meeting. Please let someone know if interested.

Meeting adjourned: 12:43pm

Treasurer, Mike Wolthuis, KB8ZGL