

Minutes for January 2016 Club Meeting

Lowell Amateur Radio Club Monthly Meeting – 01/09/16

Meeting Called to order: 10:04am

Officers Present: 7

- (x) President & (x) Vice-President
- (x) Treasure, & (x) Secretary
- (x) Tech Advisors (Daniel)
- (x) Web Master & (x) PIO

Number of Members Present: 13

Number of Guest Attended: 0

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

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

• Dues Paid: 36 (1/9/16).

• Diamond Sponsor fee of \$100 donation is in addition to dues and is tax deductible.

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

• RTCM – Remote Thin Client Module, is online and working. Brought up online around Dec. 19th.

• IRLP – Currently not at 100%, Daniel is looking into this.

• Holland Repeater – Having technical difficulties, Daniel will continue to trouble shoot this.

Web Master Report: (x) Read – (x) Approved

*** Following report submitted via email, 1/9 by Sam

• Site Updates: Site was updated to WordPress 4.4.1. As a consequence, our site theme needed to be modified to work properly with the latest WordPress. The new look of the background was chosen to be a little more neutral and thus make the site easier to read, but I welcome all comments to improve it.

The gallery modules have been updated to resolve an issue that would cause several of the galleries not to display properly on some windows based computers

• Online membership functionality: As of today 11 members purchased their 2016 membership online. Also, 2 members purchased a Diamond sponsorship online. If any members have any feedback on how to make this feature more useful to them, please send your comments to me via the contact form on the site.

Old Business:

• December Christmas Distribution at FROM went well. Some of the Lowell Boy Scot group assisted with traffic control

• VHF – Discussion on removing the “Agree” displayed on Access Policy for classified section was discussed further. It was agreed that this is needed to ensure the policy is read and accepted when site is accessed. The Terms of Use will be streamline by web master so easier to get through but the “Agree” button can be used at any time to move forward.

• Dues and Family plan clarification:

– Dues increase to \$30 per year was approve at the October, 2015 meeting. There was discussion on a “Family Plan” which is to be \$30 per member and an additional fee of \$10 which will cover any additional member residing at the same physical address as \$30 paying member.

– Motion was made, and accepted.

– Treasurer requested clarification on dues increase as to when the increase of \$10 took affect. This would ensure the correction information is being communicated.

-> Motion was made, approved and accepted to follow guide lines:

1. Dues paid before or at the October, 2015 meeting of \$20 will be grandfathered in. The additional \$10 will not be collected.

2. If member paid the additional \$10 he/she can elect to be reimbursed or make the amount a donation to LARC.

3. Dues paid after vote to accept due increase are required to pay \$30 for the annual dues.

4. Treasurer will handle the communication and collection from member(s).

• Proposal I Vote:

– After lengthy discussion on how Proposal I during the December 15th meeting was submitted and if it met

the requirements of the By-Laws as currently written. a motion was made to continue with the voting process. This motion failed.

- Proposal I was submitted in written form and given to the Secretary. Document was recorded in minutes and dated by the Secretary. Proposal I will lay over until the February 13th meeting.
- Discussion followed on holding over the January 9th absentee ballots that were submitted. It was decided because there is now two (2) proposals to be voted on in February the January 9th ballots should be disregard. A new ballot form, listing both proposals, along with a copy of each Proposal will be included and sent to entire membership.
- Eligibility: It was discussed that “eligibility” to vote be listed on ballot form. To be eligible” to vote each member’s 2016 dues must be paid in full. The ballot form will be updated.

New Business:

- National Parks on the Air (NPOTA): North Country Trail is listed under the national parks has not been fully instated.
- A NPOTA event must be within 50 yards of the trail. It states the guide lines that traveled to the event should under human power but this was discussed and it permissible to travel by vehicle.
- A motion was made to have LARC schedule a NPOTA as a club event, Motion carried.
- Event will be chaired by Hank Greeb and scheduled at a later date.
- SKYWARN: Sign up for Feb 26th, at JCFA.
- DropBox: Setup and officers have access and receive update notifications.
- FROM: Discuss in regards to continuing to operate from current radio room location or begin looking for a new place. Discussion to continue during February meeting.
- New Hams Dinner:
 - The West Michigan, New Hams Dinner, is now going to be called the West Michigan Hams “Get Out of the Cabin” Dinner.
 - February 27th, 1:30PM to 3:30Pm at the Old Country Buffet at Rogers Plaza in Wyoming.
 - Jack reported that the GRARA club is going to chair the activity this year. LARC and Holland ARC additional co-sponsors.
 - Fee of \$30 per club to be a sponsor event: Motion made, carried, and accepted to donate \$30 for LARC to be a sponsor.
- Diamond Sponsors: Treasurer reported that additional donations for the Diamond Sponsor has been received. The donations received earlier were ear marked to cover expenses for staying at FROM. Should these donations be ear marked for FORM future rent, expenses, or put into the general fund. General consensus was to put donations in general fund for now.
- FROM: Discuss in regards to continuing to operate from current radio room location or begin looking for a new place. Discussion to continue during February meeting.
- Proposal II: Proposal for Article VI, Sections J & K submitted by David Putney.
 - Secretary has recorded and dated proposal was received on Jan 9th, 2016 during scheduled monthly meeting.
 - There brief discussion on sections of proposal as clarification to what will be change on By-Laws. Proposal will lay over to the next scheduled monthly meeting February 13th.
- Request for Absentee Ballet to be listed on LARC website. Discussion followed but no decision was made.

Meeting adjourned: 12:22pm

Secretary, Bobbie Miller, KD8WZI