

Minutes of the Twin State Radio Club Meeting Held 10 October 2020

A meeting of Twin State Radio Club was held via Zoom on Saturday, October 10, 2020. The meeting opened at 9:03 AM.

Officers present: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary and Trustee

Old Business

President's Report:

Attendees were introduced. Members were asked again to think on future projects and events; what their passionate interests are. A 5 year plan meeting is suggested for January.

Vice President's Report:

Presentation today by Rich N1GNB on Nano VNA and Smith charts.

Suggested future presentations

- Ray WA1ORT on grounding.
- Dave N1HAC on propagation including sporadic E and the effects of lighting, there are slides to present. Also multiband antennas (and during the annual forum), OCF, large loops.
- JT65, moon bounce propagation, FT8, WHISPR. Joe Taylor – developer of low bandwidth low noise modes (2 part ?).
- Training on club radios: in person activity, a workshop, leading up to field day. In April?
- Surface mount assembly, soldering.

The Vice President is soliciting presentation suggestions. Get in touch with Dave N1HAC either by email or the repeater.

Treasurer's Report:

- Checking – \$ 686.34.
- Savings – \$ 51,408.43. Amount due to transfer from CD to savings account.

There has been no discussion yet with the Non-Profit people. There is a negative \$58.26 from the CD account.

A motion was called for to accept the Treasurer's Report. So moved by Ray WA1ORT, seconded by Dave N1HAC. ***The motion passed unanimously.***

Secretary's Report:

Scott KC1LDI detailed the amendments to the submitted the September 12, 2020 minutes.

A motion was called for to accept the minutes as amended. So moved by Ray WA1ORT, seconded by Clyde KA1BSZ. ***The motion passed unanimously.***

Trailer Report: Alan AE1H, Ed AB1XQ, Dave WA1ZCN

Dave WA1ZCN and Ed AB1XQ working on trailer. Another row of antenna racks were added for 5 total. Modifications will be made. The trailer may not be square and make for cabinetry difficulties.

Contact was made last week for an estimate on tower trailer painting and patching, no progress so far. Welding may be done by members.

Estimate 75% work done on trailer.

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Repeater Committee: Dave N1HAC, Dave WA1ZCN

Moose Mtn. is working well. Some crackle is heard when there are windy conditions, possibly due to static charges: an antenna issue? One project is for a PL decoder on the 220 radio. Will need to wire up as decoder is external, have a box for it. This would eliminate the ME repeater interference. The CT repeater around Waterbury interference getting into ours may not be long term as it will be eliminated with a decoder.

At Strafford power and antennas are in. The repeater is acting up. The PL decoder squelch is in. There is a key up issue. There is a 220 link radio issue, squelch is in the Strafford end. Echo link is OK. In good shape except for little anomalies. Rack has been installed for a permanent repeater. Working with a possible LED light interference. There may be an issue with Yaesu repeater squelch. It is not disabled and through an internal path key itself up. The carrier squelch triggered by any noise. There was discussion on the carrier squelch system.

Dave WA1ZCN suggests thinking about permanent upgrades to systems. A MASTR II project or a Kenwood? There is a learning curve to controller programming, Steve W1HS has created a master program with small inclusions for each system. Tricky to figure out. Dave WA1ZCN wants to re-document.

Nicole AC1HQ asked if Strafford could be working before the weather closes in. Answer is yes and still can get to site.

Education committee: Ray WA1ORT

There is a VE session today at 1:00 PM. There are 2 signed up and 3 extras. There is a VE session next week too. Nicole AC1HQ suggests putting the schedule on the Valley News calendar and the club meetings too. Schedule is on the ARRL, CVFMA & TSRC websites, also at the Lebanon Library.

There is a session by the CVFMA at the Charlestown firehouse planned on December 19th. One in January before Winter Field Day.

The scouts are interested in a the tech in a day course. There was a question about kids day, the ARRL promotes this. The trailer may be taken down to American Legion kids day the 1st Saturday in January and the 3rd Saturday in June. Ray WA1ORT is the merit badge counselor for NH.

Events in the works:

VE Sessions in January with presentations on in December.

Sled Dog Race 2021 TBD.

Winter Field Day.

Fox Hunts.

Inventory.

New Business

None.

A motion to adjourn was made by Alan AE1H, seconded by Ray WA1ORT. ***The motion passed unanimously.***

The meeting concluded at 10:27 AM. Presentation followed.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Scott KC1LDI.