

Minutes of the Twin State Radio Club Meeting Held 12 September 2020

A meeting of Twin State Radio Club was held via Zoom on Saturday, September 12, 2020. The meeting opened at 9:04 AM.

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

Old Business

President's Report:

Attendees were introduced. With infrastructure projects winding down need to decide what direction the club will take in 5 years or more. Ideas are requested. Suggested is expanding into kit building (coordinating with Makerspace) and education. What will be the general direction?

Vice President's Report:

Presentation today is on Morse code in popular culture by Nicole AC1HQ.

Next month's presentation will be on Nano VNA and Smith charts by Rich N1GNB.

This weekend is the Digital Communications Conference. Some of the subjects in the conference could be future presentations.

Suggested future presentations

- Dave N1HAC on multiband antennas.
- Surface mount soldering.
- Ray WA1ORT on grounding.

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

Treasurer's Report:

- Checking – \$938.81
- Savings – \$51,408.43

The Edward Jones investment account balance was transferred to the savings account and the account closed.

The investment package offered by Edward Jones had high fees. Looking for other investment packages.

Don W2QYB inquired about other investors like Vanguard. Dave WA1ZCN stated that advice is needed. Don will provide a link to the New Hampshire Center for Non-Profit.

Secretary's Report:

Scott KC1LDI detailed the amendments to the submitted the August 8, 2020 minutes.

A motion was called for to accept the August 8, 2020 minutes as amended. So moved by Dave N1HAC, seconded by Ray WA1ORT. ***The motion passed unanimously.***

Trailer Report: Alan AE1H, Ed AB1XQ, Dave WA1ZCN

Ed AB1XQ reported that the shelving is complete, cases and canopy are installed. The portable repeater is installed. The front end still needs work particularly the bench. The antenna rack is complete and has been extended. The carpet installation took a lot of work.

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Repeater Committee: Dave N1HAC, Dave WA1ZCN

Dave N1HAC reports that 2 meters on the Moose Mtn. repeater is working OK with some anecdotal reports on limited coverage, to be expected given changing weather.

There is DX on the Moose 220 link. Tone which had been turned off is now back on. A downward courtesy tone indicates 220 link use. Keyups without connection appear to be due to a CT club having put up a link radio on the Moose frequency and the propagation is reaching all the way up here. No PL is turned on; it is disabled by the controller. There is no decode, an external unit is needed. Dave N1HAC will try to talk to the CT club repeater manager about the connection issue.

A permanent radio is needed at Strafford, the portable is being used now. MASTR II use with programmable oscillators is suggested. Will try to finish the optic line today, will pull power line tomorrow. The shed is finished; needs some insulation, lights and a last coat of paint. Cable parts are in. Repeater was tested and heard well with the 50W mobile, expect full CT river valley coverage with final installation.

Education committee: Ray WA1ORT

Planning a fall VE session in October at the La Salette Dining Hall set up for social distancing. JOTA is on with use of the internet. Ray suggests using the internet to limit exposure and pass on direct contact.

Nicole AC1HQ suggests emails to coordinate VE session if/when there is a date. Suggested is 1:00 PM after the next club meeting.

Events in the works:

VE Session - TBD.

Inventory.

Winter Field Day in late January, the 4th full weekend. Need to decide on how big, what to do? Covid-19 complicates.

Sled Dog Race 2021, don't know what the social situation will be.

New Business

A motion to purchase a CTCSS tone decoder was made by Dave WA1ZCN, seconded by Ray WA1ORT. ***The motion passed unanimously.***

Dave WA1ZCN reported that NH ARES Academy no longer exists, functions moved to New England division. There are plans for sessions to be moved online, more information to be posted.

Traudi N1HPX asked about recruiting young members and education efforts. Ray WA1ORT reiterated his efforts with the scouts. Dave WA1ZCN stated the need to do more. Efforts are hindered by Covid. There was agreement of the need to entice young people into the hobby. Dave N1HAC mentioned the efforts of New England Sci-Tech. Need to build on the interest in Morse code.

A motion to adjourn was made by Ray WA1ORT, seconded by Dave N1HAC. ***The motion passed unanimously.***

The meeting concluded at 9:47 AM. Presentation followed.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Scott KC1LDI.