

**Minutes of the Twin State Radio Club Meeting held March 13, 2021 - Amended**

A meeting of Twin State Radio Club was held via Zoom on Saturday March 13, 2021. The meeting opened at 9:02 AM.

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

**Old Business**

President's Report:

Attendees, new and current, were introduced. Each attendee detailed their latest radio activities.

Vice President's Report:

The presentation today is VHF/UHF propagation by Dave N1HAC.

Suggested future presentations:

- April - annual antenna forum. Think about antenna projects. Dave N1HAC on multiband wire antennas.
- A sounding rocket mission report on a May launch by Dave N1HAC.
- June – field day options.
- Joe Taylor – developer of low bandwidth, low noise, low bit rate modes. JT65, moon bounce propagation, WHISPR, FT8 and
- A talk about the above modes.
- A talk by Traudy N1HPX on her father's radio equipment.
- Slide set on the Cape Cod WCC Marconi station.

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

Treasurer's Report:

- Checking – \$ 1,940.85. Some dues payments are to be added.
- Savings – \$ 47,419.06.

Interest on the savings is paltry. There needs to be a talk about investment. The treasurer wants to bring members together and is soliciting investment expertise. A committee should be appointed.

A motion was called for to accept the Treasurer's Report. So moved by Clyde KA1BSZ, seconded by Ray WA1ORT. ***The motion passed unanimously.***

Secretary's Report:

Scott KC1LDI reviewed the submitted Feb 13, 2020 minutes.

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

Trailer Report: Alan AE1H, Ed AB1XQ, Dave WA1ZCN

No new activity. Steve KA1NYP helped shovel the equipment trailer out.

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Repeater Committee: Dave N1HAC, Dave WA1ZCN

The Strafford repeater continues to have interesting noise problems, like those previously heard at Moose. The cause is undetermined. Digital delay? External? Have been unable to visit site due to weather. Have been concentrating on doing ground work, controller development work. Have eliminated 2 previous sources of noise. Something else is going on now, something random. Ongoing work to retain access to site on property, no new information. Site is at 2000', providing almost the same height as Moose Mtn.

The Moose Mtn. repeater is behaving. The 220 radio link has been turned back on. No skip so far, as sometimes happens from the CT propagation issue. PL is not working yet.

Want to formalize the relationship for the Springfield repeater at Stellafane, similar to the one with CVFMA: to have club equipment down there (none there now). Idea is to link back to Moose Mnt. and fill the southeast Vermont coverage area. Repeater is used primarily for Stellafane conventions but is usable all the time. Ed AB1XQ asked about the repeater I-95S coverage. Consensus is that it is good. Goal is to provide coverage into the valley. The opinion of Dave N1HAC is that a different antenna and/or movement of it to the east peak would improve coverage.

The committee is soliciting functionality reports for the E. Corinth repeater. Want to upgrade eventually.

Education committee: Ray WA1ORT

Have been working with scouts since Christmas. 4 scouts have gotten merit badges and 3 may take the test for Technician today. The scout master and assistant scout master are to take tests for General. There are parents that want licenses.

The VE session at the Village Market in Lebanon is today at 1:00 PM. The venue has 10,000 square feet for distancing. Will plan for a test in April. Want to do a tech in a day class. Will also plan for a session in May for Field Day. Scouts want to do a GOTA station, possibly using the club trailer. The scouts want to use ham radio during a summer camping trip in the White Mountains.

There was discussion on new (young) members and school clubs. Creating a welcome package was suggested; explaining the club for active hams and new members. Nicole AC1HQ asked about summer VE sessions. Possible and there are now 3 sites available for testing.

Events in the works:

- Education
- NEARFest cancelled for May. Hope for October.
- Prouty online again. An Ultimate Prouty is still in the works.
- Field Day, looking at ARRL guidance. Expect to be distributed again, will do in person. A new packet is out on line: aggregate contesting can be done again and limiting of PEP.
- Inventory – see below.

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From an email by Dave WA1ZCN, with input by Adam KC1GDW, Scott KC1LDI proposed that the club purchase:

- 1) A Netum wireless barcode scanner for \$34.99.
- 2) A Dymo Label Writer 450 for \$66.47.
- 3) Dymo .75x2.5" durable labels (2 450 label spools) for \$59.21.

For a total of \$160.67.

A motion was made to spend up to \$200.00 for the above items. So moved by Ed KC1FWS, seconded by Dave N1HAC. ***The motion passed unanimously.***

There was discussion about doing the inventory.

Dave WA1ZCN detailed the need pay reoccurring bills during the year, including insurance and web hosting fees.

A motion was called for a continuing resolution to allow the treasurer pay reoccurring bills for the calendar year 2021. So moved by Alan AE1H, seconded by Ed KC1FWS. ***The motion passed unanimously.***

Changes to liability insurance brought \$292.00 back to the club.

Anticipating further price increases Dave WA1ZCN purchased another of the Alinco 220 radios that have been discontinued. He proposed that the club buy the Alinco unit from him. A motion was called for to reimburse Dave WA1ZCN \$212.45, the cost of the Alinco DR-235 mobile radio including shipping. So moved by Ed KC1FWS, seconded by Dave N1HAC. ***The motion passed unanimously.***

Nicole AC1HQ reminded the attendees that officer elections are in June and nominations are made in May.

Ed AB1XQ proposed the construction of a portable HF antenna, 40 to 80 meters as a new event. The antenna would work with the IC-7300 radios and be something that does not need to be pounded into the ground. Clyde KA1BSZ suggested wood construction. Dave WA1ZCN stated that the club owns speaker tripods that have used for antennas and that a mobile HF antenna is also owned. There was discussion on this.

With no further business to address a motion to adjourn called for. So moved by Ed KC1FWS, seconded by Clyde KA1BSZ. ***The motion passed unanimously.***

The meeting concluded at 10:13 AM. Presentation followed.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Scott KC1LDI.