

Minutes of the Twin State Radio Club Meeting held January 8, 2022 - Amended

A meeting of Twin State Radio Club was held via Zoom on Saturday January 8, 2022. The meeting opened at 9:04 AM.

Officers present: Nicole DeShone, AC1HQ - President
Dave McGaw, N1HAC - Vice President
Dave Colter, WA1ZCN – Treasurer
Alan Bradford, AE1H - License Trustee.
Scott McCoy, KC1LDI - Secretary

Other attendees: Ed Barney, AB1XQ
Dave Bridgham, N1AHF
Ray Chaffee, WA1ORT
Traudy Colli, N1HPX
Edmond Cooley, N1GMC
Alasdair Dunlap-Smith, W1UC
Kim Kimura, KE1LF
Donald Kollisch, W2QYB
Pete Ludwig, AB2U
Keith Merrick, W1TIM
Don Price, KB1VP
Gordon Schnare AB1SK
Martin Smith
Alex Smith, W1FET
Ed Stammer, KC1FWS
Rick Watson, Jr. N1GNB

As the meeting started it was noted that a quorum of voting members was present. Motions can be voted on.

President's Report

Members and attendees were introduced. Attendee radio activities were noted. Education efforts were mentioned.

Vice President's Report

The presentation today is a revisit of our round table 5 year planning meeting last year to talk about the direction of the club. This year we will be focusing on expanding education and public outreach.

Possible future presentations:

- Foil tape antennas – Feb?
- Trudi N1HPX on her father's equipment – Feb or Mar?
- Antenna forum – April?
- Surface mount assembly – May or later? Dan AD1HD? Jay KB1RZA? Dave N1HAC?
- Surface mount kit build.
- Grounding by Ray WA1ORT.
- ARRL Field Day.

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- Tactical communications – Dave WA1ZCN
- Fox hunting.
- Troubleshooting tubes.
- Obscure digital modes.
- Slide set on the Cape Cod WCC Marconi station.

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

Again, suggestions for new meeting places is solicited.

Treasurer's Report

- Checking – \$ 3,017.72
- Savings – \$ 41,635.43
- Bonds – \$ 5,000.00.

There are 18 voting members and 11 associate members.

A motion was made by Rick N1GNB to accept the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Alan AE1H. ***The motion passed unanimously.***

Secretary's Report

The submitted December 11, 2021 minutes were reviewed and amended.

A motion was made by Alan AE1H to accept the minutes as amended, seconded by Rick N1GNB. ***The motion passed unanimously.***

Trailer Report

Storage work has been done by Dave WA1ZCN. Alan AE1H has been busy as of late. Dave WA1ZCN is prepping the support trailer window and suggests changing the glass in the communications trailer, stating that a black out screen should be considered.

Ray WA1ORT presented an option for car plug / USB receptacles. He recommends this due to it having no RFI issues.

Repeater Committee

Dave N1HAC reports that the Moose Mtn. repeater has an ongoing 2M sensitivity issue. It comes and goes and he suspects the antenna. Installing two more cables on the tower is being considered to eliminate the triplexer.

Dave WA1ZCN reports that the Strafford repeater is more or less behaving. The other cables on the tower may have to be replaced by the club. A 100 watt power amplifier may be available. The question was asked: have the EchoLink and Allstar connections been checked? If not they should. Reports are that the radio seems to be operational but testing didn't work. It is connecting on one side.

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The portable repeater requires frequency change and the duplexer needs retuning. An auto switch to battery method is being done by Dave WA1ZCN

There was further discussion about the Moose Mtn. repeater. Estimate around \$1,000.00 with shipping for cable costs. It is hoped that the tower work effort can be piggybacked with other projects being done on the tower. There are 4 folded dipoles with UHF connections in between; suspect one of these is loose. The 440 MHz and 220 MHz performance is excellent so Dave N1HAC is convinced that the cabling is not at fault.

Education committee

Ray WA1ORT has been working with the Scouts. This month's exam session at La Salle is put off until February (other than the 1st week). There are 4 interested in taking exams. A fox hunt with the Scouts at La Salle is proposed. They have the space. Orienteering was mentioned by Nicole AC1HQ, there is a merit badge too. Options were discussed. Younger club members are wanted and there was discussion on the Scouts being a source.

The FCC may implement a increase in fees April 1st.

Old Business

The older club radio disposition list created by Dave WA1ZCN will be placed on the club and CVFMA websites. Non sealed bids will be taken and the high bid takes the item home. Unsold items will be taken to NEARFest and Henniker.

The VHF/UHF event is 15 to 17 January.

Winter Field Day is 28 to 30 January. Members were asked to decide if the club was going to do the event or if they would do as individuals with an hourly net. Ed KC1FWS volunteered his location as a site. The decision was to do just as individuals. The question was asked how information was to be entered for WFD. The answer was as a text string format on the WFD website.

Still have heard nothing about the Blue Mountain Sled Dog Race. Contact was needed and Dan AD1HD did not attend the meeting. Nicole AC1HQ stated that a commitment and volunteers are needed. Ray WA1ORT stated there was interest and approval of what was done in the past.

Dave WA1ZCN reported that a race in Laconia in February wants volunteers. Nicole AC1HQ stated the request would be passed on the reflector.

Budgets were discussed. A budget for education is needed. The repeater budget wants input, need a contingency fund. All committees have openings, new members are solicited. Ray WA1ORT stated flyers needed updating, Dave WA1ZCN reported that flyers in the communication trailer are up to date. QSO cards are also there. Dave WA1ZCN asked if test sessions are covered. Ray WA1ORT answered no need to, there are no expenses so far and no cost for new versions of the tests.

There was discussion on new venues for in person meetings. Outdoor pavilions are considered. Ray WA1ORT reported that venues are available at La Salle and at the park in Enfield. Enfield has a pavilion for no fee but also no bathroom. Nicole AC1HQ stated internet access should be considered. Use of a hotspot was suggested. Will keep looking.

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New Business

Ed AB1XQ reported the need to update the club QRZ page repeater information webpage link. Dave WA1ZCN asked if anyone had a login. Unknown, need to work on and to set up. There was consensus that the Trustee should manage this. Nicole AC1HQ suggested that license session information should be there.

The Facebook site needs to be updated. Steve W1HS has worked on it but not recently. Having a social media manager was suggested. Having an Instagram site was suggested, there is no account for one. Don KB1VP asked if doing this could be an Eagle Scout project. It was stated that Eagle Scout projects are one offs and not viable.

It was stated that meetings and events need to be faster and more interesting to hold a younger audience. A need to tighten up. Doing presentations first and club business last was suggested.

With no further business to address a motion to adjourn called for. So moved by Gordon AB1SK, seconded by Alan AE1H. ***The motion passed unanimously.***

The meeting concluded at 10:12 AM. The 5 year round table planning meeting followed.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Scott KC1LDI.