

AJARC

Meeting Minutes January 3rd, 2023

Location: Old Oak Tap Room

Present: 21 Members, 2 Guests, Bryan Smith (W2BRN)-President, Larry Whiteside (KN4MVH)
Sec/Treasurer

Next meeting: February 7th, 2023 7PM, TBD.

Meeting

The meeting called to order, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, and a prayer led by Abner Richards (K4MIK).

Introductions by roll call of names and call signs.

1. Secretary/Treasurer report

Reading of the minutes from the last meeting - Larry Whiteside

Larry Whiteside (KN4MVH)-Sec/Treasurer report: Deposits of \$279.15 (\$176.85 in dues, \$100 VAP Donation, \$2.30 interest from APEX Bank), Expenses totaled \$167.00 (Camp Creek Fire Hall \$35.00, GLPS of \$32.00, Coal Fund donation \$100). Checking balance as of December 31, 2022 is \$13,486.50. Currently we have 65 members, 22 members would be quorum. STEM project: \$5,750 nothing has been submitted for payment for the grant.

Please check on your membership on the AJARC.org web site. Renew through PayPal or by check. If you have questions about your membership please contact Larry Whiteside at KN4MVH@gmail.com. Minutes are on the website for review.

Report on 2022 finances. I will not be at the February meeting.

Bryan Smith (W2BRN) presented to Ian Bible (KE4EAC) and Scott Bird (KM4FYJ) plaques in appreciation for their dedication as officers to the AJARC. (Note that Bryan Smith and Joe Bowman purchased them with their own money.)

2. Old business:

Hamfest 2023 (April 15th): Ian confirm that we have the fair ground for April 15th, 2023. There was discussion on the pricing. Motion made by Chris Gass and Seconded by Kyle, vote passed to raise the ticket prices to \$10 admittance with \$5 fee for tailgating spaces. No discussion on changing the building booth rates or table rental fee so they stay the same.

The Hamfest Chairman this year is Bob Etheredge (KM4EBZ) and his contact info is KM4EBZ@Yahoo.com. Phone number is 318-650-1172. He will work on getting door prizes. Mark Slep reported that there will be testing. Bryan will work on either getting a ticket sponsor or locating a source to purchase tickets. We need to get flyers ready and printed for the upcoming events in February and March. Larry Whiteside said he would work on an updated flyer. Hamfest needs to be updated with email forwarding and notes about the new chairman and fees. Dennis Holt (N4DWH) is willing to work at the gates, setup and whatever needs to be done.

Towers / repeaters:

STEM Grant project status: Steve reported that the classes are starting on January 9th, they will have 8 students and possible 6/7 adults (some are parents).

3. New Business

Bryan and Larry reported that they are working through leadership transition. ARRL website changes have been made, AJARC updates are in process, working on banking, IRS, the State of TN Dept. of Revenue. We still need to

notify Dept. of Agr. /Forest Service, and John Parker with CERI U of Memphis. No action is needed with the Liability insurance after I talked with them on the phone.

Fire tower Special use Permit: Larry has provided Bryan with a copy of the Dept Agr Special use Permit. It expires at the end of this year and we will need to get a new one. Dept Agr has website that describes the process and it needs to be started six months before it expires.

Winter Field day (Bryan Smith, W2BRN): There was discussion about doing which is March 31. There was no interest at this time.

VFW Johnson City Communications room and equipment at their post- Bryan Smith (W2BRN): There was discussion on getting a group together and going to their facility to discuss what needs to be done, what they need to buy before setting up a work party. There were several volunteers including Eddie Barker (KO4EVE), Bob (KM4EZ), Larry (KN4MVH), and Dennis (N4DWH) to help Bryan with the site visit. Eddie stated that he had also been approached about this interest. Their goal is to be able to do Skywarn and other emergency communications. The VFW members will need help because they can't do some of the work themselves. They have funding and some equipment already. Facility is in a lower elevation area and will be a challenge.

ARRL events (Bryan Smith-W2BRN): Bryan will get more information on this program and provide to the club.

<https://www.arrl.org/volunteers-on-the-air>

W1AW/4 call sign us: Bryan reported that he was contacted by Dale Knight about an opportunity to have club members use the ARRL call sign for a time block on March 22 and Sept 13 of this year. He will find out more details and what we need to do to participate.

Bob Gass (N4FV) - Weather balloon tracking receiver. Possible install at fire tower. There was interest. There was a motion by Eddie and seconded by Larry White to proceed with adding the receiver. Motion passed. There were some questions about how it can be used. More information to come. There were concerns about possible "RF" with the equipment but Bob has assured us that it won't cause any issues. Most days balloons are released at 6 -9 am and pm daily. Club members would be able to track with directional equipment and possibly find them when they fall to earth.

Visitor Charlie Wilhoit asked assistance as he needs ten minutes time on a ham radio as he is working on his Eagle Scout award. Several club members volunteered to talk with him as 3rd party traffic given he hasn't got his license yet after the meeting.

4. Roundtable

Motion by Eddie end the meeting.

Meeting adjourned time: 20:25