

## **KPARC Meeting Minutes of Monday, September 14, 2015**

The KPARC Meeting on Monday, September 14, was called to order at 1:56 PM in the East Social Room in the Kings Point Club House.

Treasurer Monica Miller reported we have \$3,855.78 in our club account. The Treasurer also reported that as of 7/1/15, our bank is charging us \$14/month service fee. Monica will meet with them to see if they won't change it, and if not, we will look for another bank or a credit union to host our account.

The KPARC Board Meeting Minutes of August 11, 2015, were read by Secretary Linda Conklin. There were no changes to the minutes.

Repeater Problems: Users of our W4KPR repeater have reported weak signals and an irritating clicking sound in the background. We discovered that we had suffered another lightning strike to the antenna, which has since been replaced. The clicking noise was traced to our club room camera security system. This problem has been resolved. President Wayne Conklin was informed that room changes in the clubhouse may require us to move our repeater cabinet. We are working with Vesta management on that issue.

CERT Net: The weekly CERT net is conducted every Wednesday night at 7:30 PM. This net is well-attended and is currently practicing message handling. All amateurs are encouraged to join this net, and to take a turn being Net Control.

Emergency Communications Proposal: (Dick Bishop) The SCC-ARC started a movement to put orange placards in member's windows to let neighbors know in the event of a disaster that the resident can forward requests for help to the Emergency Squad or Hillsborough County Fire Rescue, or pass on health and welfare messages. Dick will print more of the placards and start to hand them out to the club. We should also encourage our neighbors that need oxygen or special assistance to sign up with the Hillsborough County EOC for help in a disaster situation.

D-Star Report: (Dick Bishop) Dick encouraged D-Star users to monitor the South Carolina Coastal Net, which is held Saturdays at 9 PM. The D-Star Weather Net is held on Sunday nights. Today's presentation is on the Raspberry Pi, which many of the D-Star group members use for communications. The next step is to build a mini-repeater for D-Star. D-Star users are seeing a significant loss of signal power in our current antenna feed system. The D-Star system is sharing the .090 antenna, which is primarily analog. The repeater puts out a signal of 30W, but only 7W of the digital signal are being transmitted from the antenna. We are looking into this problem.

Linux Report: (Doug Gatchell) The Linux group is exploring how it works, and now are ready to put what they have learned into practice. Using the new Maryland Image

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allows a D-Star hotspot. The group can purchase a quad-processor mini-computer for the Raspberry Pi setup for \$30.

Upcoming Events: Dotty reported that the combined KPARC and SCCARC picnic will be held at the horseshoe pits gazebo on Saturday October 24 at noon. Tickets are \$8 a person.

A field trip is scheduled for the Cigar City Brewing Company on November 12. Several people in the club reported they will be out of town that week, so Dotty will check to see if an earlier date will work. The cost is \$5.35, including tour, a souvenir mug, and a 16 oz. serving of beer. Lunch will be at the Spaghetti Warehouse in Ybor City.

Today's Program: Dick Bishop and Doug Gatchell. Tampa developer of Raspberry Pi software KP4TR (Ramon) will explain on video how to use an SVX Link to create an Echolink Node, and even a VoIP Echolink Node.

16 members attended the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 3:10 PM. The next KPARC meeting is scheduled for Monday October 12, 2015, at 2:00 PM, in the KPCH Ripple Room.

Linda Conklin  
KPARC Secretary