

## **KPARC Meeting Minutes of Monday, April 11, 2016**

The KPARC March Meeting was called to order at 2:00 PM on Monday, April 11, in the Ripple Room in the Kings Point Club House.

Treasurer Doug Gatchell reported that KPARC has approximately \$3,240 in the checking account.

The KPARC Board Meeting Minutes of April 9, 2016, were read by Secretary Linda Conklin.

Activities Chair Dotty Love reminded everyone that the combined KPARC/SCCARC spring picnic will be held Saturday, April 23 at noon at the SCC horseshoe pits gazebo. The cost is \$8 per person, and tickets can be obtained from Dotty or from the Friolet's in the SCCARC ONLY until Monday, April 18. Served will be beef brisket, cole slaw, potato salad, baked beans, rolls, dessert, and beverages.

Dick Bishop reported that the Arduino group is still going strong, meeting every other Tuesday for lecture and discussion. Alternate Tuesdays are workshops for assembly and programming. There may be another new project next year.

Alan Blackwell and Mike Burks are camping for the next 3 days in the Alafia State Park, and will be running QRP sessions. All hams are welcome to join them.

Today's program, "Multi-Protocol Digital Networks," was presented by Uli Ultvater and his partner Torsten (from Hamburg, Germany) of Wireless Holdings Ltd. Uli gave a summary of the digital modes available, which were primarily used by law enforcement and emergency response services. What they have in common is a single MD chip that compresses and digitizes the analog data, made by a company in Massachusetts. However, each manufacturer uses different compression mechanisms. For instance, D-Plus (Icom specific) uses reflectors, while WIRES-X (Yaesu specific) uses the sound card in the PC. CCS7 (Common Channel Signaling No. 7) provides authentication and routing capability that allows communication between many of the different digital modes, including DCS, DMR+, C4-M, P25, and dPMR. Uli described their company's product, the DV4mini, a USB stick dongle, is a GSMK modem for digital mode communication, including D-Star, DMR, DPMR, P25, and C4FM (Yaesu Fusion). Uli had several of his units available for purchase at the meeting.

16 members and 9 guests (including 2 from Tampa Amateur Radio Club and 2 from Lakeland Amateur Radio Club) attended the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 3:20 PM. The next KPARC meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 9, 2016, at 2:00 PM in the KPCH Ripple Room.

Linda Conklin  
KPARC Secretary