

KPARC Meeting Minutes of Monday November 14, 2016

The KPARC November Meeting was called to order at 2:05 PM on Monday, November 14, 2016 in the Ripple Room in the Kings Point Clubhouse. Vice President Jim Key officiated and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Treasurer Doug Gatchell reported that the club had \$2,161 in the bank account as of 14 November 2016.

Interim Secretary Gary Dinda – The Club abstained from having the KPARC Meeting Minutes from the meeting of October 10, 2016 read. The meeting minutes are posted on the web site and available to anyone to peruse at their leisure. The minutes were also displayed on the screen prior and during the meeting.

Committee Reports

- Dotty has the Christmas pot luck tickets. This function is to be 5 December, 2016. Cost is \$7.
- Dotty requests that attendees bring a covered dish for 8 to 10 people. Explicit instructions of the event as well as what the attendee should bring were available on each table in multiple copies.
- Dotty spoke briefly about the success of the Pinellas EOC trip on the 3rd of November. The folks that participated had a great time and the trip went off as planned. Greg Becker showed off his workplace and guided us through the 3 year old Pinellas county EOC facility.

Dotty announced that the club has to fill the following vacancies for 2017. The following candidates are committed to stand as officers and shall be voted on at the December meeting.

- President, Alan Blackwell
- Vice President, Hudson Richard
- Club Secretary, Marjorie Uschold
- Treasurer, Doug Gatchell

Elections are in December

Bill Love made Jim Key aware of the Kings Point Amateur Radio Club Constitution & By-Laws that state in part:” The President shall be a resident of Kings Point.”

Announcements.

- Jim Key reminded everyone that the Plant City Hamfest is the weekend of 9 & 10 of December. We will have 3 tables with items for sale and one table for information. If you want to participate as a helper i.e. set up, sell etc. You are welcome. If you have items for sale bring the gear in. Dick added that if you attend the Hamfest you should stop by and relief the folks working the tables, you would be appreciated.
- Jim also acknowledged two visitors. Marjorie's sister Mary I Mazeau is visiting her from up North. The other visitor was Kay Fore representing her husband WD8NZR who recently past away. Jim extended the club's condolences to her and her family.
- Dick gave the repeater status report. Mr Rasabi, a technical skilled and knowledgeable communications person, brought some of his test equipment and troubleshot the repeater / antennas. The results of the tests brought some discrepancies to light that were repaired.
- The D-star repeater will be shipped back to the OEM.
- Jim solicited help for the new PSOC (Public Safety Operation Center). The EOC is moving to a new facility and with that is also renamed to the PSOC. The help is needed on Wednesday 11/16 and Saturday 11/19. Pack up radios at the EOC and then unpack at the PSOC. Call 813-417-2357 if you are interested. Moving day is Saturday 11/19.
- Alan would like to continue the clubroom monitoring program. He will start on Thursday 0900-1100 with doughnuts.
- Jim discussed SKYWARN recognition day.

December 2, 2016, 6-10pm December 3, 2016, 9am-5pm	NWS Ruskin	SKYWARN Recognition Day 2525 14th Ave SE, Ruskin, FL 33570 http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/mtr/hamradio/
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Presentation

Dick Bishop discussed the ease of using **EchoLink**. It is a computer-based Amateur Radio system distributed free of charge that allows radio amateurs to communicate with other amateur radio operators using Voice over IP (VoIP) technology on the Internet for at least part of the path between them. The system allows reliable worldwide connections to be made between radio amateurs, greatly enhancing Amateur Radio's communications capabilities. In essence it is the same as other VoIP applications (such as Skype), but with the unique addition of the ability to link to an amateur radio station's

transceiver. Thus any low-power handheld amateur radio transceiver which can contact a local EchoLink node (a node is an active EchoLink station with a transceiver attached) can then use the Internet connection of that station to send its or software is required to relay a transmission via an EchoLink node.

ADJOURNMENT

27 members attended the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 3:00 PM. The next KPARC meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 12, 2016, at 2:00 PM in the KPCH South Social Room.

Gary Dinda
KPARC Interim Secretary