

Southeast Missouri Amateur Radio Club

Minutes of April 6, 2020

The monthly meeting of the Southeast Missouri Amateur Radio Club was called to order on Monday, April 6, 2020, at 1900 by President Ron Morris, ADØBY, with 25 members and 1 guest present on the club's first-ever on-air meeting on the 146.685 repeater.

Minutes of the last meeting were read by Secretary Patty Chiles, ACØCU, and were approved as read.

Not mentioned on air, but included in the official meeting minutes, is the Treasurer's report by Treasurer Judy Bradley, KCØWXS. She reported a beginning balance of \$5243.20. She deposited \$100 in membership dues, with no debits to the account, leaving a balance of \$5343.20. The treasurer's report was approved as read. Judy announced that we have 63 club members to date.

Also not mentioned on air, but included in the official meeting minutes, is the final distribution of the estate of Joe Lorberg, WAØZNI. The SMOARC received one-fourth of Joe's estate, in the amount of \$15,424.25. The check has been cut and will be deposited into the club's account.

Old Business

Barry Doyle, ACØWL, reported that all the repeaters are functioning normally. In February and March he did the normal testing at the 146.685 repeater site, and he ran the generator for about 15 minutes. The building looks great both inside and out; it has heat in one room, but he is concerned about air conditioning in the summer. Dave Obergammer texted Barry regarding an unauthorized lock on the chain, but Barry assured him that it was not placed there by one of our members.

Barry also reported that we had several successful Skywarn events, and our reports were helpful to both Paducah and KFVS. Barry and Ernie Chiles, WØRMS, met with the Poplar Bluff ARES group, whose goal is to get a Skywarn group up and running, but due to the Covid-19 outbreak, nothing has been done yet.

Barry's Technician class in Perryville is on hiatus due to the outbreak as well, and unfortunately, the class was not even halfway through the course.

Barry attended Skywarn training in Perry County. He said that Rick Shanklin of the National Weather Service told him that he was impressed with the quality of our Skywarn spotters. Barry warned us about potential dangerous weather on Tuesday and Wednesday of this week.

There was no EOC report.

New Business

Ernie Chiles, WØRMS, announced that the City of Jackson called today to tell him that, due to the city parks being closed, they will refund our money for the April 25 shelter rental; therefore, the fox hunt has been cancelled.

Ernie also announced that the Missouri QSO party was also very successful. Due to everyone being forced to stay home, they were all on the air, and it was so busy that we did not have to spot ourselves. We worked all 50 states, 22 Missouri counties, 8 Canadian provinces, and several DX entities, for a total score of 71,680.

Ron Morris, ADØBY, reported that Dan Drury, KDØTNS, has donated a .440 repeater (which includes a phone patch) to the club, but we need a volunteer to store the equipment in a dry environment.

Ron also mentioned that at this time, we have no idea if there will be a June 27-28 Field Day, but we are moving forward as if we are. Please send Ron an email to let him know which shift you would be willing to operate during Field Day.

The Memphis Freefest has been cancelled.

Ron stated that he has not heard from Frank Stafford, W5CME, regarding whether he is interested in creating a monthly newsletter or if he is interested in Facebook.

Smith Deline, NØVGD, asked if Echolink is still available, because he would find it very useful during his travels. Barry Doyle, ACØWL, said that Echolink is not turned off; it is just no longer completely open. Any club member who would like to have access to Echolink needs to give Eric Bennett, KEØATR, his/her name and call sign so that it can be unlocked for them.

Ernie Chiles, WØRMS, reported that the Huntsville hamfest is still expected to occur the last week of August, but he will keep checking on it and will let everyone know if it has been cancelled.

The April meeting of the Southeast Missouri Amateur Radio Club was adjourned at 1930.

Respectfully submitted,

Patty Chiles, ACØCU
Secretary, SEMOARC