



The Villages Amateur Radio Club Minutes for December 2017

These minutes are the board-approved record of The Villages Amateur Radio Club's (TVARC) expenditures of club funds, property transactions, contractual agreements and proceedings involving membership votes since the last General Membership meeting. The current club property inventory and financial report are on the club's website.

December 7, 2017 Board Meeting

Earle Hancock (President) called this Board Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. EST. This meeting was held at the Panera Bread restaurant (Lake Sumter Landing, The Villages).

Attendance. Officers present: President Earle Hancock (KM4ISN), Vice-President Rich Erlichman (ND4G), Secretary Tony Hackenberg (K4QR) & Treasurer Pete Stafford (K2PS). Thus, a quorum was present. Ex-officers present: Ron Adcock (KK4YCW). Members present: Bruce Cusanelli (WA1UTQ), Don Crosby (W1EJM) & Cal Fuhrman (WA3CTZ). Guests present: None.

Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day 2017. Earle conducted a moment of silence to honor our armed services personnel and civilians who died when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor 76 years ago today.

President's Report. Per the club's Constitution/Bylaws, Earle instructed Tony to put another request for nominations for next year's Board on the agenda for the January club meeting.

Vice-President's/Program Coordinator's Report. Rich confirmed that John Kruk's (N9UPC) presentation ("Yaesu System Fusion & DR-2 Repeater") will be in January. DX Engineering's presentation ("Corporate History & New Products"), by Bob Naumann (W5OV), via Skype, is set for February. "Powerline Noise" by David Yulke (AA2GT) is scheduled for March. Ralph McNall (WB2DCL) will present "Integrating the YSF DR-1 Digital Repeater" in April. In May, Dennis McKinney (N0SMX) is scheduled to present the "Montserrat DXpedition 2017". Finally, in June, "Field Day Preparations" (probably by K2DM) and a panel discussion on "Antennas for The Villages" (moderated by John

Ellis/NP2B) will share the presentation spotlight. Thanks to Rich & his volunteer presenters the incoming Board gets a great holiday gift: presentations scheduled so far in advance. [Secretary's addendum: The incoming Board can revise schedule.]

Treasurer's Report. Pete noted the club roster for December showed 227 members. Pete briefly reviewed the November financial report, which the Board had previously approved via a series of e-mails. Pete received a thank-you letter from the ARRL for our club's donation to their "Ham-Aid" fund & Tony will put it in the club's archives.

Secretary's Report. Tony stated that "it's all on the club's website" (approved Board & Club meeting minutes, etc.). He reported no official & only 1 informal correspondence.

Radio on the Square (RoS). Tom Grosvenor (NV1U; Event Chair) submitted his "wrap-up" report via an e-mail as he was unable to attend tonight's meeting. Everyone present agreed RoS was a great success thanks to Tom's leadership and his volunteer helpers. Bruce (WA1UTQ) gave Tony a memory stick holding numerous photos from RoS for posting onto the club's website.

Nominating Committee. On John Ellis' (NP2B; Chair) behalf, Tony reported on the headway made by this committee. Currently, their slate of candidates includes at least one candidate for 3 of the 4 club officer positions. Any qualified member interested in running for one of these offices should contact John Ellis (NP2B).

Christmas/Holiday Party. Earle ("the Elf") reported that preparations for the club's Christmas/Holiday Party on Dec. 21 are going well. However, there will be no "door prizes" since the budgeted amount is nearly exhausted. Everyone who plans to attend should sign-up on the RSVP-like form on the website.

Drawing for Donated Rig (3 Eligibility Tests). Pete proposed we eliminate the 2nd eligibility requirement (pre-requisite). After some discussion, the Board rejected this proposal to eliminate the requirement to have attended the club-sponsored, General licensing classes in 2017. So, you must still meet all three of these prerequisites to be eligible for the drawing for the donated Yaesu FT-920 at the Christmas/Holiday Party on Dec. 21:

- 1) be a club member in good standing;
- 2) attended the club-sponsored, General licensing classes in Oct. & Nov. 2017; &
- 3) passed any VEC-administered, General licensing exam between Nov. 27, 2017 and December 21, 2017; and submit FCC-acceptable proof to both Earle & Rich of such passage if not at the club-sponsored exam on Nov. 27.

TVARC's Emergency Communications Team (ECT). On behalf of George Rutkoskie, (W4GOR), Earle stated that George met with David Casto (Director of Sumter County's Emergency Management) regarding ECT's defined role to handle emergency communications "within & for The Villages" should The Villages Dept. of Public Safety so request.

Club Station Committee. On John Ellis' (NP2B; Chair) behalf, Earle reported that the committee met with John Rohan (The Villages' District Recreation Director) about possible sites for a club station. Mr. Rohan made no commitment but did ask for further documentation, which Ed Williams (W8APE) e-mailed to him. Near the end of tonight's Board meeting, Don Crosby (W1EJM) lead a discourse about re-visiting the possibility of siting the club station at The Villages Hospital. This was tabled and referred to the Club Station Committee for their deliberation & consideration.

Educational Coordinator (EC)/Technician Licensing Class. Ron (KK4YCW) proposed, and the Board agreed, that the next, club-sponsored, Technician Licensing Class will be held on February 10, 17 & 24. The corresponding VEC-administered licensing exam will be on March 3. Earle will contact the Eisenhower Rec. Ctr. scheduler to reserve appropriate rooms for this class. [Secretary's addendum: Shortly after this meeting, Earle did reserve the Eisenhower's "Card Room" for these classes.]

Educational Coordinator (EC)/General Licensing Class. Cal Fuhrman (WA3CTZ) reported that he will send out personal congratulations to the "graduates" of the recently completed, club-sponsored, General Licensing Class because he discovered that the ARRL's "graduation packets" are only for the Technician Class. Cal transferred five leftover General Licensing Manuals (students) to Earle to put into the club's inventory in the storage unit. Cal proposed, and the Board agreed, that the next club-sponsored, General Licensing Class will be held on March 12, 19, 26 and April 2, 9 & 16. The corresponding VEC-administered licensing exam will be on April 23. Earle will contact the Eisenhower Rec. Ctr. scheduler to reserve appropriate rooms for this class. [Secretary's addendum: Shortly after this meeting, Earle did reserve the "Card Room" for these classes.]

Educational Coordinator (EC)/Extra Licensing Class. Cal also reported that the "slide deck" for the upcoming club-sponsored, Extra Licensing Class (January 15 through February 5) is in pretty good shape. However, the club's out-of-date Extra Class Study Guide will not be revised in time for this class. Cal already has enough instructors (as 5 members have volunteered) & student manuals (as he picked-up the 5 from Chuck Wyrick/N1UC).

Volunteer Exam Coordinator (VEC). Rich (ND4G; ARRL VEC Liaison) published the club-sponsored, Feb. 7th exam in the ARRL's database (web accessible via <http://www.arrl.org/find-an-amateur-radio-license-exam-session>). Once Earle confirms the room reservations for the newly proposed Technician & General classes in early 2018 (see above), Rich will publish the corresponding VEC exam sessions in this database.

H-T Programming Session. Bruce (WA1UTQ; Activity Lead) will conduct the 2nd H-T programming session (for any brand of HTs) during the Social/Elmer hour at the January 18th club meeting. However, Bruce requests people bring the appropriate software if they want a "DMR" programmed. Bruce will prepare an announcement for the website & reflector.

MS Walk 2018. In response to an inquiry from the organizer of the MS Walk 2018, Earle agreed to act as TVARC's temporary/interim Chair for our club's participation in this annual event at the Polo Grounds. Earle hopes another club member will volunteer to chair TVARC's participation in this event. Rich will setup a web-based, volunteer sign-up form.

Elmering Matt Tandy (K4MJT). Tony thanked Frank Molloy (KA1AF) & John Ellis (NP2B) for making the "house calls" necessary to put a smile back on this elderly member's face after they fixed the problem (an incorrectly wired microphone) with his Yaesu FT-1200.

Certificates of Appreciation. Tony proposed that paper Certificates of Appreciation be handed out at this Board's last club meeting (February) to the Event Chairs & Activity Leads. After a lackluster discussion, Tony withdrew his proposal when it became clear it lacked majority support.

"State of the Union." Tony proposed that the Board make a "State of the Union-like" presentation at the February club meeting. This presentation will present statistics & anecdotal references regarding TVARC's "health" during our 2 terms of office. The Board agreed.

Authorized/Paid Expenditures. None.

Authorized Property Transactions. None.

Adjournment

Earle Hancock (President) adjourned this productive Board Meeting at 7:55 p.m. EST.

Tony Hackenberg (K4QR), Secretary