

Draft Minutes of the Business Meeting of the Forsyth Amateur Radio Club - 16 October 2017

By Jim Register (KV4SJ)
Secretary, Forsyth Amateur Radio Club

1. Call to Order and Welcome: The monthly Board of Directors Business Meeting, Forsyth Amateur Radio Club, was held on Monday, 16 October 2017 at Sixty Six Pizzeria, 3440 Frontis St, Winston Salem. The meeting was called to order by FARC President David Shoaf, K4CX, at 1930 hours, welcoming all meeting attendees.

2. Meeting Attendees: The 18 meeting attendees were Harlan Cobert-W1HRC, Steve Patterson-WA3RTC, David Shoaf-KC4X, Terry Brown-AK4D, Geoff Rudy-KK4MOV, Kent Englebert-K4HKE, John Kippe-K1PPE, Harold Richardson-N4HER, Michael Pope K4OLDSam Poindexter-NI4TG, Ron Gregoire-W4UDB, Jim Register-KV4SJ, Don Edwards-WS4NC, Pedro Tomas-KN4GKY, Gaff Pearce-W4GYP, and Jerry Minor-K4GW.

3. CQWW SSB Contest: Reviewed plans to support using the club station for the CQWW contest. It did not make the newsletter; there will be a separate email sent out asking for interested members. This will be October 28 and 29, starting at 0000 UTC Saturday and ending 2359 UTC Sunday. That works out to be 8:00 pm EDT Friday, Oct 27 until 7:59 pm EDT Sunday, Oct 29. If we have anyone interested, Henry, W2DZO, will open the building Friday; Don, WS4NC, will open Saturday. Don plans to operate 15M Saturday afternoon between 3 and 6pm.

4. Corporate Stamp: A corporate stamp has been ordered for \$34.11 and is on its way.

5. Donated Equipment: Henry did an inventory with suggested minimum bids. Don will provide that to Terry to put up on the website. The auction will be at the January meeting.

6. Bylaws Committee: The work of the committee is progressing. We are comparing notes and attempting to simplify the bylaws and make them read the way we are doing business now.

7. Computer for YouTube streaming: Have not heard back from the refurb machine vendor on availability of a suitable machine.

8. ARES®: Harlan reported we had 17 people participate in the EMCOMM Net Control Station class on Saturday. Our newest ham, Pedro Tomas, KN4GKY, served as one of the net controllers - his second time on the air, and did an outstanding job. The Thursday ARES® net is averaging 24 check-ins, putting us at one of the highest average check-ins in the state. This Thursday, we will declare the .47 repeater down and switch to the .64 repeater. All who are available, please check in. This will help give us a coverage map.

Discussion about getting digital network for emergency services. Paul N4VOA is looking into it for Harlan. Jerry, K4GW mentioned the PiGate emergency email gateway that they are using in Puerto Rico.

<http://www.pigate.net/>

Harlan has been asked to speak with the Triad Baptist Church Amateur Radio Club in Kernersville, as they want to become part of ARES® and support Kernersville. This will be in January.

The EOC is about half-way through putting in the coax for the antennas.

The ICS courses are still set up for next month. You must be registered for them in TERMS. When registering, the Discipline field is required; select Amateur Radio.

Link:

<https://terms.ncem.org/TRS/logon.do>

<http://w4nc.com/ARES.htm>

Note: ARES® and Amateur Radio Emergency Service® are registered trademarks of the ARRL, and must always be used with the ® symbol. Found that looking at a sample club constitution put out by the ARRL. [KV4SJ]

9. Equipment Inventory: David, KC4X, asked if we have a current equipment inventory. Kent, K4HKE, had checked with Henry, WB9SZO, when the insurance came due in July, and was told at that time that the inventory list was up to date.

10. Dual-band rig for the EOC: Harlan, W1HRC, asked and was told we do not have a dual-band rig we could use at the EOC. We discussed purchasing a suitable rig and power supply. Moved, seconded and approved \$400.00 to buy Yaesu FT-7900R 144-440 rig, power supply, and rack mounting bracket. Don will make up the difference to buy a go-box for it to live in.

11. 2m rig at WXII: We have a 2m rig at WXII, originally for passing radar info out to hams and relaying info from Skywarn to the station. The coax terminates under the floor of the cubicle where the rig is. Lanie Pope is aware of the rig's presence. Harlan, W1HRC, will follow up with Lanie and go verify the station is in good working order. We can't call it Skywarn, but may call it the weather net or ARES® Weather Net.

12. Science Net on 145.47 repeater: Steve Patterson, WA3RTC, brought up the weekly science net for which Neil Fishman, KM4HCW, had requested a repeater time slot. We had discussed this at the March 2017 business meeting. The science net was approved in principle at that time, but Neil became ill before we could actually come up with a specific time slot and the project was put on hold. We still need to come up with a time slot. Monday would conflict with the club and business meetings; Tuesday would conflict with the Science/project meeting; Thursday would conflict with the ARES® net.

Quoting from the March minutes:

"3. Requests for Repeater use: Dale Mierisch, WB9SZL, indicated that Neil Fishman, KM4HCW, has asked about starting a science net on the club repeater. Discussion covered available dates and times, and ground rules regarding keeping discussions friendly and avoiding drifting into political discussions, rancor and pseudo-science, with the proviso that we did not want to censor the potential topics.

John Kippe, K1PPE, moved to allow use of the repeater on a temporary basis with the guidelines that we have set forth. The motion was seconded and approved. Dale volunteered to write up

some basic guidelines. Harold Richardson, N4HER, suggested that the guidelines should be posted on the website for any nets that might want to use the repeater.”

Minutes of the March meeting are on page 12 in the May/June newsletter, linked below:

<http://www.dwepe.com/FARCNewsletters/y2017m05-06.pdf>

13. Adjournment of Meeting: Motion to adjourn the meeting was made, seconded and meeting was adjourned at 2018 hours.