

## Minutes of the Business Meeting of the Forsyth Amateur Radio Club – 15 February 2021

By Stacey MacArthur (W1LLO)  
Secretary, Forsyth Amateur Radio Club

- 1. Call to Order and Welcome:** The monthly Board of Directors Business Meeting, Forsyth Amateur Radio Club, was called to order by President Sam Poindexter (NI4TG) at 1930 hours. The meeting was held on Zoom video conferencing software due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 2. Meeting Attendees:** The 25 meeting attendees were, Don Edwards WS4NC, Sam Poindexter NI4TG, Harold Richardson N4HER, Stephen Patterson WA3RTC, Terry Brown AK4D, Ken Kayser K2KXK, Stacey MacArthur W1LLO, Michael Pope K4OLD, Kent Englebert K4HKE, David Shoaf KC4X, David Nicholson N2AWE, Doc Holliday WB4DOC, Jerry Minor K4GW, Harlan Cobert W1HRC, Gene Bowman WB4MSG, Mason Matrazzo KM4SII, Steven Mierisch KG4JWU, Dale Mierisch WB9SZL, Gary Miller WA4VMC, Van Key KC4WSK, Jim Register KV4SJ, Geoff Rudy KK4MOV, Rick Huebner W0RCY, Dick Hattaway W4PID, and Joseph Waugh KO4MDE.
- 3. Announcements:** A special committee has been formed to look into creative ways to raise funds for the club. The committee consists of David Shoaf KC4X, Stacey MacArthur W1LLO, Ken Kayser K2KXK, Kent Englebert K4HKE, John Canup KM4HVB and Sam Poindexter NI4TG.
- 4. Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Kent Englebert (K4HKE) gave a brief treasurer's report. Our balance in the bank is roughly \$3900. 50% - 60% of active members have paid their dues so far. There are no upcoming large expenses, and the club is in good shape.
- 5. Hamfest:** Based on the vaccine delivery schedule and taking guidance from national hamfests, the April hamfest has been cancelled. The October hamfest is still a possibility.
- 6. Repeater Report:** Dale Mierisch (WB9SZL) presented the testing and repeater report. Because our sponsor W4VEC does not support remote testing at this time, Steve Patterson W3RTC, and David Shoaf KC4X, have secured an outdoor location Saturday May 8<sup>th</sup> for in person testing. More details to come. 145.47 repeater recently experienced a power outage. Going up to the mountain it was discovered power was out in the area. The power was restored, and a new router and switch was installed.
- 7. New Ham Kit:** Stacey MacArthur (W1LLO) presented the New ham kit project. The project was first seen in the February edition of QST by Bryan Jackson (W2RBJ). This version would consist of a red folder with ARRL handouts, local information, and general radio information geared toward recently licensed hams to be given out at testing sessions when they can be resumed. The handouts include a newly designed and printed 1/3-page flyer advertising the club. A budget breakdown was presented and voted upon. The motion passed.
- 8. Vector Conversion:** The current club seal/logo (designed by Jerry Minor K4GW) had been created using raster software, meaning there is currently no file suitable for print. A vector format graphic is important for any use concerning professional printing. A call to pay \$75 for a vector conversion was voted on and passed.

**9. Newsletter:** The newsletter currently has 564 subscribers, 42% of which opened the email. This past month's newsletter currently sits at 764 views. Our newsletter gets a lot of circulation. For those who contribute to the newsletter, the deadline for this month is February 28<sup>th</sup>. A notice on both the website and the newsletter will now accentuate our 501c status and any donations to the club is eligible for a tax deduction with confirmation letters available.

**10. Field Day:** The ARRL recently released a statement on Field Day 2021 announcing that the rules from last year would also apply this year. Currently, unless something changes, we are still looking to hold Field Day at Hobby Park. It is hoped that by this time most members that are more susceptible to the virus will have had their vaccinations. Due to the modified rules from last year applying this year, those who do not feel comfortable attending at Hobby Park may still operate from home and contribute to the overall aggregate score. For those that would like to attend, there will be some changes and precautions. Stations will be separated further apart, sanitation stations will be set up with hand sanitizer and paper masks for those without, and disinfecting wipes will be available for wiping down microphones and equipment. A waiver may also need to be signed as per regulation from the park. This is a fluid situation and may change as new information is made available.

**11. Auxcomm:** This Thursday is the monthly face to face training over Zoom continuing training on the ICS-213 message form. Participation is encouraged, and you can find the Zoom number on the website. Next month's Zoom training will be on Winlink email by David Nicholson N2AWE. Skywarn training may have been extended for an additional year, still looking for verification. On the W4NC website there are the two dates for Skywarn training, please register for this training failing the additional year is false.

**12. Domain Names:** The W4NC.com and W4NC.org domain names are coming up for renewal. Prices have increased at the current registrar, and new options are being discussed.

**13. Adjournment of Meeting:** The meeting was adjourned at 2103 hours.