

Minutes of the Business Meeting of the Forsyth Amateur Radio Club – 19 April 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 19 meeting attendees were, Don Edwards WS4NC, Sam Poindexter NI4TG, Harold Richardson N4HER, Stephen Patterson WA3RTC, Terry Brown AK4D, Stacey MacArthur W1LLO, Michael Pope K4OLD, Kent Englebert WS4Z, David Shoaf KC4X, Jerry Minor K4GW, Harlan Cobert W1HRC, Mason Matrazzo KM4SII, Steven Mierisch KG4JWU, Dale Mierisch WB9SZL, Van Key KC4WSK, Geoff Rudy KK4MOV, Bob Gusek NC4RG, Gary Miller WA4VMC, and Joe Waugh KO4MDE.
- 3. Announcements:** Still no word on when in-person meetings can resume. Don Edwards (WS4NC) will follow up with Red Cross personnel for more information. Terry Brown (AK4D) has placed information on the website about the new RF exposure evaluations required by the FCC taking effect early May. Club antenna systems to be evaluated for RF exposure soon. A portion of every general meeting for topics geared towards the beginner is being discussed.
- 4. Inventory:** The finance committee has completed an inventory of all club assets. Insurance is due for renewal in June and this inventory will be used to calculate coverage. An auction will be scheduled to liquidate unneeded items as soon as in-person meetings resume. If anyone would like a copy of the inventory, please contact an officer.
- 5. Member Survey:** The survey to the club membership went out on Tuesday. The results will be analyzed at the next finance committee meeting and presented at the board meeting in May.
- 6. Science Bridge:** The NC Science Festival Science Bridge was held this past Saturday the 17th on Long Branch Trail in Winston-Salem. This was a children's event that emphasizes STEM fields. Mason Matrazzo (KM4SII) Harold Richardson (N4HER) and Stacey MacArthur (W1LLO) represented the Forsyth Amateur Radio Club. The demonstrations displayed were a morse code straight key for children to tap out their names, a solar powered station in a box highlighting HF digital modes, and a TARPEN packet station to send messages across the event space. This is part of an ongoing effort to spark interest in young people for amateur radio.
- 7. Testing and Repeater Report:** Dale Mierisch (WB9SZL) presented the testing and report. The outdoor in-person testing on Saturday, May 8th has been confirmed. There are an adequate number of VEs and 2 sign-ups so far. The exam session will be from 1pm to 3:30pm at the Robinhood Baptist Church. Multiple trips to the .47 repeater site have been made over the past month for inspection and adjustments. Improved audio has been reported. Still some clean up to do from the ice storm including fallen trees and a broken fence. The new battery has been installed in the backup generator. Interference nearby keying the repeater with an unintentional 100hz tone. Work to eliminate this interference is ongoing.
- 8. Auxcomm:** The May general meeting will be "The future of emergency communications in North Carolina" by Harlan Cobert (W1HRC). There are many changes happening regarding amateur radios role

in state run Emcomm. Auxcomm is showing decreased participation on the Thursday night nets. The possibility of changing the time to accommodate more people was discussed. Zoom training the 3rd Thursday at 8:00pm. Tour to Tanglewood is going on as scheduled. Please keep this in mind, volunteers are needed.

9. Adjournment of Meeting: The meeting was adjourned at 2035 hours.