Disney Emergency Amateur Radio Services

D. E. A. R. S.

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

PO Box 690905, Orlando, Florida 32869-0905 <https://wd4wdw.org>

Type meeting: Board Meeting December 5, 2019

Meeting Location: Disney’s All-Star Resort Cast Services Building, Box Office conference room

Attendees:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Steve Martin | Ian Ward | Brenda Davis | Andy Milluzzi | Eleanor Marshall |
| David Glasser | Paul Bousquet | Dennis Voegler | Ricardo Galarza | Angel Hernandez |

Call to order at 6:01pm by Andy Milluzzi

Introductions were held

Secretary’s Report

* Minutes from previous meeting made available on the club’s website, <https://wd4wdw.org>
* Previous meeting minutes were accepted by the attendees
* The secretary handed out membership forms to those interested and to allow grandfathering people into the club who are not cast members, retirees, and not related to cast members

Treasurer's Report

* The club had four transactions during November (a fan was ordered but did not count until December 2nd)
* The club’s current balance is $12,028.21
* $13.30 repayment to Andy for raffle prizes
* $56.00 deposit from the donations from Maker Faire
* $15.99 deposit from Amazon Smile

Special Committee Reports

Bylaws Committee

* Brenda mentioned that the committee has been going for three months and good progress has been made. They try to meet twice per month.
* The committee is currently reviewing articles 5 and 6 (Meetings and Finance)
* David questioned who is on the committee?
Brenda replied Ken, Brenda, Ricardo, Angel, and Eleanor
It was later determined that Ian and Sean are also committee members but Sean has not attended any committee meetings to date
* David questioned how many meetings have been held with all five people?
Brenda replied at least three
* Andy proposed that a draft of the document be presented to the board by the January Executive Board meeting. He would like to present it to the club membership in February, vote on it in March, and have officer elections under the new Bylaws in April.
* Brenda mentioned that the document would be completed in 2020. It should not be rushed because there is no immediate crisis and the current bylaws do not prevent us from holding elections or completing other important matters.
* Andy mentioned that we do not have a record showing that any of the previous bylaws were voted and agreed upon. The only legal documents we currently have are the articles of incorporation filed with the State of Florida.
* Brenda advised that no bylaws were filed with the articles which she believes to be a violation of state law
* Brenda mentioned that she has proof that the previous bylaws were voted upon in April of 2013 by the members present but not listing individual names.
* Andy requested that Brenda send all old meeting minutes and documents she may have to the current Secretary for archiving
* David - two to two-and-a-half years ago at a general meeting David had addressed the members of the club. All of these current issues were brought up at that meeting. Since then, we have been trying to move things forward. There is more of an urgency to get these things done and off the table so that the club can continue with new objectives. We must recruit and retain new members. David did not believe he was given a membership form when he originally joined, although the Secretary later found his completed membership form dated September 14th, 2016. David is retired and has offered his time to proof-read the bylaws and provide feedback on chapters in order to speed up the process.
* Brenda suggested that David join the committee and participate during their regular meetings. She is fine with him reading the document but without being a party to the conversation there is no context.
* Paul would like to see the bylaws completed before the next round of elections. Paul suggested that the committee provide completed sections to the board, or even the membership, to review (not to vote on) and receive feedback now.
* David - The committee has completed sections 1 to 5. It is ok to pass sections 1 to 5 to members to have them look over it?
Brenda - Just because they have gone through a section doesn't mean that it is complete or will remain as it is. An upcoming section may have related information and require modification to a previous section.
* David asked if his marked-up document from July had been used for reference
Brenda replied yes, she has used all member submissions
* Dennis - if the club has been operating successfully under the current bylaws, he would like to vote on the current bylaws and put an expiration date on it, so that it forces a deadline and legalizes what we currently have.
* Ricardo suggested that David attend the Bylaws committee meetings and provide his feedback to them.
* Ricardo suggested that the committee submit a copy of everything that has been changed up to what has been completed to the general membership for review
* Andy proposed the following:
1. The Bylaws committee should provide the working copy to the general club membership as soon as is reasonable (days, not months)
2. Either Brenda provides the previous bylaws and minutes that shows they were previously voted on, OR we vote on bylaws as the committee currently has them and set an expiration date of March 21st, 2020 on them. The Bylaws committee will then have until that date to get the final Bylaws passed or extend the existing bylaws.
* Andy – we have not elected a new Vice President since Rebekah resigned because it isn’t clearly called out in our bylaws
Brenda – both the old bylaws and our Articles of Incorporation state that “if this document does not address an issue, the rules will revert to Robert’s Rules of Order for direction” and Robert’s Rules does specify how to fill a vacancy.
David – while Robert’s Rules is a very good document for process, it does not negate the necessity for the club to hasten the completion and approval of our bylaws and our constitution as soon as possible. Robert’s Rules assists us in avoiding conflict in how we go about the process, not present a way to run the club.
Dennis - Robert’s Rules of Order do not hold up in court, so having an agreed-upon set of bylaws would help us legally organize.
* Brenda agreed to Dennis’s proposal of providing the old Bylaws with an expiration date

VE Testing Committee

* There were some participants from Maker Faire who tested with us, one of which received his General license

Activities Committee

* The committee has not met yet
* Brenda has been doing a fantastic job planning for the club’s December dinner
* Brenda reminded everyone that they must self-pay for the December dinner

Old Business

* January meeting topic
	+ Andy asked if there were any requests for topics to be discussed
	+ It was decided that Andy will be presenting on Satellite communications. He may provide a demonstration as well.
	+ David asked if he could bring his own Satellite antenna. Andy replied yes.

New Business

* DEARS Vans
	+ There has been a lot going on with the DEARS vans recently. Andy provided the following summary:
		- Construction work at the area near the shack required our vans to both be moved off of the lot. We could not move them to the field nearby. We informed Reedy Creek that we could only move one vehicle because the other was inoperable. Reedy Creek replied (over phone) that they were not happy with us not having current plates and having an abandoned vehicle. It needed to be moved ASAP. The club is being asked to provide proof of ownership and registration for both vehicles by December 6th. MCOM-1 is the “abandoned” vehicle. Ken is working on registering MCOM-2 this week. Andy and Ian have been doing research on the title but could not find any title transfer to DEARS. Its last registration was in New York. Andy is reaching out to Tim Letbetter, a manager in NY, to see if they can pull the registration on the vehicle. We could then show the registration to Reedy Creek. Afterwards Andy will call a locksmith to get into the vehicle. Andy was clear that nobody is to enter into the van because we do not officially own it.
	+ Ricardo mentioned that there are keys to the vehicle. Ian said the keys do not turn in the driver or passenger doors. Even after lubrication the doors do not open. Ricardo believes someone tried to force the doors open at one point and broke the cable. If a charged battery is hooked up the solenoids may kick in and unlock the doors. Corrosion was the original culprit. The key may need to be turned a few times.
	+ Ricardo provided a little bit of history on the two vans. At one time he had to rewire it and had to document the wiring. If we must get rid of it we should remove any important contents first and attempt to sell some parts for club funding.
	+ There are no plans to get rid of the MCOM-2 vehicle since it works
	+ Ricardo believes the vans were both sold to the club for $1.00 each
	+ Brenda mentioned that Jim Tyree provided all of the paperwork to Kathy Blake. She believes that Jim drove up to ABC and took a video of the exchange. DEARS was not incorporated at the time.
	+ Ian thinks the MCOM-1 van most likely came directly from ABC to DEARS, without passing through the BEARS club first. The transporter tag came from New York.
	+ The BEARS club has not met in the last year and their previous club president, Howard Price, has since retired. We do have Howard’s contact number though.
	+ Andy proposed the following:
1. Title the MCOM-1 van in our name
2. Procure a locksmith to open the van so we can remove anything of value
3. Get rid of the van (sell it, part it out, or donate it)
	* Most people agreed that we only need one van, but we should attempt to get as much as we can monetarily while getting rid of one.
	* Ian - MCOM-1 is actually a newer van with a taller mast and more room
	Andy – there is little interest in moving to MCOM-1 as our main van
	* Angel requested that we set a specific date to receive the title. He proposed December 31st or before Reedy Creek removes the van, whichever comes first.
	* Reedy Creek requires all vehicles to be in working order with a valid registration. All vehicles must be owned and insured by DEARS to be parked on district property.
	* Several questions involving storage of the van were discussed. Ideas were also proposed for what to do with the van. The group agreed that it would be preferable to get rid of the van ourselves rather than have Reedy Creek tow it as an abandoned vehicle.
		+ We could call someone to come get the van after removing the contents
		+ We could give the van to another club who expressed an interest in it
		+ We could donate it to a radio station that might be interested
		+ We could call a salvage yard and might receive $450 or so, plus have them pick it up (this appeals to Andy)
		+ We could have a commercial vehicle service center remove the mast, lights, etc. They would tow it to their shop while working on it, thus getting it off of Reedy Creek property quickly (proposed by Brenda)
	* Ian and Ken are working to resolve the title transfer on ECOM-2. The title will be transferred from Ken to DEARS.
	* David suggested that we start keeping an Asset Register, and then understand where the invoices or valuation of those items are. Long-term we should have a maintenance schedule for everything so we can do it on a regular basis.
	* The MCOM-2 van should go in for service since the check engine light came on recently.
* Shack Antenna Work
	+ Reedy Creek is not happy with our antenna in its current state. It is an eyesore and a threat to the substation. They want us to formulate a plan to fix the antenna.
		- Reedy creek wants a professional installation done by a licensed contractor and permit (required for any work over $2500)
		- Frank Tagliani provided a contact within AT&T that may be able to perform the work. It will likely cost us $3000 (although we haven’t received an estimate yet), and we must file a safety plan.
		- We can put an additional antenna on the roof ourselves, but not on the tower.
* Long term relationship with Reedy Creek
	+ We want to develop a long-term relationship with Reedy Creek starting next year. This includes:
		- Defining our relationship and handling transitions of leadership for both DEARS and RCID (we will use generic email addresses for our club contacts)
		- Formalize our relationship with a Memorandum of Understanding outlining our responsibilities including access to the shack, maintenance of our vehicles, etc.
		- Dennis suggested that the club consider designating a specific contact person for communications with RCID

Adjourn – 8:03pm