Disney Emergency Amateur Radio Services

D. E. A. R. S.

MEETING MINUTES

PO Box 690905, Orlando, Florida 32869-0905 [http://www.wd4wdw.org](http://www.wd4wdw.org/)

Type meeting: Members Monthly Club Meeting January 8, 2020

Meeting Location: Disney’s Pop Century Cast Services Building B, Magic Conference Room

Attendees:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Steve Martin | Ian Ward | Andy Milluzzi | David Glasser | Brenda Davis |
| Michael Smith | Dennis Voegler | Frank Tagliani | Sean Wall | Ken Kerns |
| Ricardo Galarza | Paul Bousquet |

Call to order at 6:01 pm by Andy Milluzzi

Presentation of Colors and Salute

Introductions were held with each attendee being asked their Name, Callsign, and what they would like to do with DEARS in 2020

**Secretary’s Report**

* Minutes from the previous general and executive board meetings have been made available on the club’s website, <http://www.wd4wdw.org>
* One revision to the previous executive board meeting minutes was received
* Previous meeting minutes were accepted by the attendees
* Announced that membership forms were available for anyone wishing to fill one out

**Treasurer's Report**

* The club’s current bank balance is $10,036.77
* $1,600.00 was deducted for one year of automobile insurance for the club van
* $386.44 was deducted for the van registration
* We received $15.99 from Amazon Smile donations
* We received $56.00 from Maker Faire promotional item donations
* The transactions since the last club meeting were displayed on the screen
* Motion to purchase a safe for the communication shack (max $75.00) to protect important items from fire and water damage – passed by those in attendance

**EmCom 2 Update**

* EnCom 2 is now owned by DEARS
* Ken Kerns will write a letter to release the vanity plate. The club will pay $1.00 to Ken.
* We plan to have a mechanical check of the van performed this month
* The insurance restricts who is able to drive the van
* Brenda proposed adding Ricardo Galarza to the insurance as a driver so he could take the van for the mechanical check. This would likely add an additional $200.00 to $300.00 to the annual insurance cost. Passed by those in attendance.

**Special Committee Reports**

* Bylaws Committee – progressing as expected
* VE Testing Committee – no new updates
* Activities Committee – no new updates

**Old Business**

Logging VoluntEAR Hours

* A demonstration was provided on-screen showing how cast members can log their volunteer hours worked on the Disney website
* All 2019 hours must be entered by the end of January, 2020
* A separate form must be filled out to request an EARS-TO-YOU grant. Depending on the number of volunteer hours you logged, Disney may make a contribution to the non-profit of your choice.
* The company will match any non-profit monetary donations you make over $25.00
* Ken suggested reaching out to the local United Way to see if DEARS can be part of their charitable organization

Bylaws

* Ken inquired whether we have a quorum present. We counted thirteen people present, and we have approximately forty-three membership applications on file. That makes up greater than thirty percent so yes, a quorum is present.
* Brenda provided the club secretary with a DEARS Constitution from 2011.
* Brenda provided the club secretary with minutes from February, 2011 and March, 2011 club meetings. The March, 2011 minutes indicate that the DEARS Constitution had been voted upon and unanimously accepted by the attendees at that meeting.
* Andy read the DEARS Constitution out loud to the members since it was the first time that they had seen it
* Andy requested to hear issues and objections to the bylaws that were presented during last July’s club meeting.
  + They were not approved
  + They were already referred to a committee specifically formed to update them
* Brenda requested to hear issues and objections to the Constitution from 2011
  + Dennis stated that the document is illegitimate because it doesn’t define a “board”. It mentions officers, but officers are not necessarily on a board. They are not the same thing by default.
  + The document doesn’t make a reference to the non-profit (which didn’t exist at the time)
  + The current filings with the state make reference to the club’s bylaws, not a constitution (although Brenda mentioned that the Constitution and Bylaws can be one and the same)
* David suggested that we let the bylaws committee continue, and provide something by April 9th for the membership to look at, discuss, review, and approve by a 2/3 majority. He also suggested that club elections be delayed by three or four months after the bylaws have passed.
* Frank offered to bring documents from other clubs for us to review and potentially use as guides
* A proposal was made by Dennis Voegler to pass the bylaws that were introduced during the July, 2019 club meeting and to put an expiration date of April 9th, 2020 on them. The proposal passed by a vote of 11 for, 2 opposed.
* The bylaws committee is still expected to continue working on the new club bylaws. This just provides us with something to operate under until they are complete.

Shack Update

* The A/C needs repair
  + Ken mentioned that we have a member (Matt) that does A/C work. We’ve been unable to contact him, but Ricardo occasionally sees him at other meetings.
* We need to coordinate with OARC to pick up the antenna. We don’t currently have anywhere to store it, and OARC would like to formally present it to us.
* We are beginning discussions with contractors to secure scope and plan work on the tower
  + Ken offered to contact Radio One and another communications company for estimates. We are also working with Frank Tagliani with AT&T on an estimate.
* Andy and Steve met with the fire inspector on the morning of January 8th, 2020
  + Need to have fire extinguisher serviced and checked annually
  + Need to move filing cabinet from in front of fire extinguisher and breaker box
  + Need to post signs on generator outside identifying that it contains fuel
  + Would like to see generator tested monthly and serviced annually
  + Need to fix or replace smoke alarm in shack
  + Need to provide lockbox access for RCFD (lockbox on outside of door)
  + Need to post updated contact names and numbers on the outside of the door
* Ken provided the current outside lockbox code to the club secretary
* The inside lockbox was changed at Rebekah’s request when she left the club last year
* Ian mentioned that both breaker boxes may be locked and we may not have a key
* The shack is not currently listed as one of the Walt Disney World assets. This makes getting annual fire extinguisher maintenance difficult. Might contact Frank Ruscio for advice.

EmCom 1 Update

* ABC in New York is working to secure a copy of the title or a certified letter. Andy spoke with Howard Price, who suggested speaking with Tim Letbetter.
* Once we have the documentation we can pay a locksmith to open the van, secure any contents of value, and dispose of the vehicle.
* RCID would like to continue receiving regular updates or they will tow the vehicle

**New Business**

* Ricardo will be handling Net Control for the upcoming Wednesday, January 22nd D.E.A.R.S. Net at 7pm. Also known as the “Fun Net” on 147.300 offset +600 PL/CTCSS 103.5 and EchoLink node #632802.
* Our next Executive Board Meeting will occur on Wednesday, January 29th, 2020 at 6pm
* Hamcation 2020
  + Frank has already allotted us a space at HamCation
  + Since the club van needs maintenance work Frank will provide us with a table instead. We can also bring our canopy. We will not plan to bring the van this year.
  + Frank would like to have more volunteers sign up for HamCation. People can sign up on-line this year. Hours volunteered can end up providing funds back to the club.
  + Andy will send out an email with a sign-up sheet for the DEARS table
  + Ken suggested bringing a box for petty cash
  + Brenda mentioned that the Central Florida Fairgrounds needs IT assistance to set up routers in preparation for the event

**Open Discussion** (limited to 10 minutes total)

* We would like to discuss adding a Van Manager and a Station Manager during the next executive board meeting
* Ken mentioned that the Junior Achievement Bowl-A-Thon is coming up. The cost is $30 per person and the club has already budgeted $170 for the event. More will be discussed in the next meeting.
* Ricardo mentioned that Last Man Standing will have DMR next week. Tuesday nights around 6:30pm for one hour. It is a Warner Bros. production produced for Fox. Our repeater has access to the 3100 talk group.
* Dennis brought in some QST magazines for attendees to take home
* Ken requested that Brenda be reimbursed for the Christmas dinner gifts she purchased. The club agreed to pay her back for the $59.00 cost.

**Guest Speaker** – Andy Milluzzi, KK4LWR, discussing Amateur Radio Satellites

* Andy had intended to demo live satellite pass reception but due to the length of the meeting the satellites had already passed for the evening
* OSCAR – Orbiting Satellite Carrying Amateur Radio
  + Acts as a repeater for split-band, FM, SSB, and Digital
  + The ISS (International Space Station) uses APRS, SSTV, and FM for contacting schools. They should be receiving new hardware soon.
* Hardware needed to work a satellite
  + Compatible radio (VHF/UHF HT such as a Yaesu FT-817/818)
  + Antenna (rubber duck, Yagi). Arrow Yagi’s are the most common.
  + Optional filters (VHF low pass filter is helpful)
  + Satellite Frequency cheat sheet (especially helpful for linear birds), such as [https://ke0pbr.wordpress.com/tag/cheat-sheet](https://ke0pbr.wordpress.com/tag/cheat-sheet/)
  + Smartphone apps such as GoSatWatch can be used to help track the satellites
* AmSat ([https://www.amsat.org](https://www.amsat.org/)) sends out a monthly journal for $44.00 per year

A raffle was held for a set of towels, a mug, and a set of drink coasters

Next general club meeting: February 12th, 2020 at 6pm

Closure: 8:10pm