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 April 8, 2020

Meeting Location: Virtual Online (<https://join.freeconferencecall.com/kk4lwr>)

Attendees:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Andy Milluzzi | Bernie Berger | Carlos Fernandes | Chris Sundlee | Daniel Columbus |
| David Eaton | David Venable | Eleanor Marshall | Frank Valley | Ian Ward |
| John Knott | Michael Cauley | Mickey Lee | Mike DiPersio | Paul Bousquet |
| Penni Nichols | Ricardo Galarza | Sal Ferdico | Sean Wall | Steve Martin |

Call to order at 6:05 pm by Andy Milluzzi

Introductions were held with each attendee being asked their Name and Callsign

**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>
* The club secretary read a summary of the previous General Meeting minutes
* Previous meeting minutes were accepted by the attendees
* Provided membership forms to those interested

**Treasurer's Report**

* The club has officially migrated from SunTrust to BB&T. This will prevent us from having to pay monthly maintenance fees based on our limited transaction counts.
* The SunTrust account has been closed out.
* The club’s current balance is $9,006.23
* Transactions over the last month include:
  + PO Box charge of $148.00
  + Purchased a 10x20 canopy tent for Field Day as budgeted
  + Charge for van inspection of $222.56
  + Fixing of Van window at $389.90
* Van Inspection Report
  + The van was taken to Action Gator Tire for inspection
  + The inspection (visual, on-board diagnostics, a/c performance) cost $222.56
  + The findings were:
    - New tires: $732
    - Alignment: $89.99
    - Vacuum Canister (for A/C): $34.30
    - Labor for Vacuum Canister replacement: $238
    - Wipers: $18.95
    - Battery: $189.99
    - Total for all items above: $1,461.38
  + The ABS light was found to indicate that there was no communication to the ABS module. They recommended an electrical system diagnostic to identify the issue, which runs $119/hr. Basically, you pay them by the hour until they identify the source of the issue, and then you have to pay for the repairs

**Officer Elections**

* The club voted on new officers at the meeting. Since the meeting was virtual the voting was performed using electronic links for anonymity and a guarantee of only one vote per person.
* Before elections each candidate was given the opportunity to speak for up to 2 minutes on why they would like to be a DEARS officer. Brenda Davis was experiencing challenges connecting so Ricardo Galarza read her prepared speech for her.
* The nominated candidates and winners are as follows (winners are in bold):
  + - President – Brenda Davis vs. **Andy Milluzzi**
    - Vice President – **Mike DiPersio**
    - Secretary – **Steve Martin**
    - Treasurer – **Ian Ward**
    - Board Member at Large – Michael Smith vs. **Paul Bousquet**
    - Trustee - **Ken Kerns**

**Guest Speakers** – Mickey Lee and David Eaton discussed TornadoAlert

* TornadoAlert ([https://tornadoalert.com](https://tornadoalert.com/)) is a small device that is capable of detecting threats of bad weather and tornadoes and alerting those nearby
* Both Mickey and David talked extensively about the device and how it was useful during the tornadoes that took place in San Angelo, TX last year
* John Knott and Michael Cauley are licensed distributors of the device and are offering it to DEARS members at a substantially discounted rate of $89.95. Members interested should contact them by email at [sales@signature-electronics.com](mailto:sales@signature-electronics.com).

**Old Business**

Bylaws Amendments

* + Proposed Change #1: Article 4 to be renamed "Finances"
    - Item 1 (fiscal year starts on...) to be added to new Section 1. Fiscal Year
    - New section created: Budget
      * Item 1: The Treasurer, assisted by committee if deemed appropriate, shall produce a budget to be approved by club membership at the final general meeting of the fiscal year. The budget shall detail expected incomes and expenses for the following fiscal year. The budget may be approved or amended by a simple majority vote of membership.
      * Item 2: Expenditures that exceed provisions in approved budget by over 15% must be approved by simple majority vote of membership prior to the expense
      * Item 3: Non-budgeted expenditures over $25 must be approved by a simple majority vote of membership prior to the expense
      * Item 4: Unplanned expenses in order to secure club property from an immediate risk can be approved by a majority of board members in lieu of general membership approval
    - New section created: Audit
      * Item 1: At the conclusion of the fiscal year, the Treasurer must produce to the President and directors, or committee chaired by the president, the financial register for auditing purposes.
    - Amend Article 12 Expiration of bylaws until July 9th at 12:01 am
    - Proposed by Ian, seconded by Paul, all in favor, none opposed. **Passed.**
  + Proposed Change #2 - Article 6 Section 8 to remove the requirement to keep physical documents at the principal office of DEARS
    - Amend Article 12 Expiration of bylaws until July 9th at 12:01 am
    - Proposed by Steve, seconded by Carlos, all in favor, none opposed. **Passed.**

Repeaters Moving

* The company is taking down the DC-6 tower and potentially moving antennas to the top of the Contemporary resort
* The footprint of our repeater will likely change
* We don't have much information at this time other than that it is coming, perhaps in July if not delayed by the COVID-19 closures
* Is it all three repeaters? Or just one and we have to find other homes for the other two? We don't know yet.
* We may or may not have our DARI network and/or D-STAR depending on the capabilities at the new facility
* 147.3 would be the top priority. If we don't have a network connection, the other two are less fun. D-Star would probably be next in priority. DMR would probably be last.
* We are currently on a SmartCity DSL line. We might have to move to a Disney Parks internet connection which could cause issues.
* The bill for the current internet at DC-6 is currently covered outside of the club. This may no longer be true after the move.
* Perhaps we use mobile beacon (mobile hotspot through Sprint) - $120 per year
* There is some concern that access may be very limited on top of the Contemporary and it may be difficult to work on the equipment. Kurt and Ken currently have badge access to the current repeaters.

**New Business**

Virtual Club Hangouts

* Perhaps hold virtual sessions to assist other radio enthusiasts and for experimentation
* Penni expressed her interest in attending
* Ricardo would like to see us meet at McDonalds again
* We might have another virtual meeting very soon to discuss Field Day
* World Amateur Radio Day is on April 18th
* Florida QSO Party is on April 25th – 26th
* Florida Parks On The Air has been postponed until later in the year
* Ian explained a little bit about Slack and its features to the club

Open Discussion

* The board will keep the membership informed as more information becomes available about the repeaters moving
* Field Day is coming up and we need to prepare
  + Dave and Penni mentioned that they have a travel trailer and a tent they could bring to Ft. Wilderness if we would like
* The next Fun Net will take place on April 22nd at 7pm. Please join if possible.
* The next executive board meeting will take place on April 29th at 6pm
* All club members are encouraged to get on the radio

Next general club meeting: May 13th, 2020 at 6pm

Closure: 8:02pm