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 April 29, 2020

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

Attendees:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Steve Martin | Ian Ward | Andy Milluzzi | David Glasser |
| Joe Parker | Paul Bousquet | Chris Sundlee | Frank Valley |
| Mike DiPersio | Bernie Berger | Daniel Columbus | Carlos Fernandes |

Call to order at 6:00pm by Andy Milluzzi

Introductions were held

**Secretary’s Report**

* Minutes from previous meeting made available on the club’s website, <https://wd4wdw.org>
* The secretary read a summary of the previous club meeting minutes
* Previous meeting minutes were accepted by the attendees

**Treasurer's Report**

* Transactions
  + The club’s current balance is $8,644.98
  + The club filed their Annual Report Filing at a cost of $61.25
  + Andy briefly explained the Annual Report Filing. It lists the officers and club’s contact information, mailing address, etc. and is one of the requirements to maintain our tax-free status.
  + Last year we paid extra for a stamped document of the Annual Report Filing. This year we decided not to pay the extra fee.
  + Ian filled out a new sales tax exemption form and is waiting for a response. This will prevent us from having to pay income taxes or sales taxes on purchases. We still need to collect and pay taxes on any merchandise we sell.
  + Ian still has unused checks from our previous SunTrust bank account. Now that we are using BB&T the checks are worthless. He would like to purchase paper checks from BB&T going forward.

**Old Business**

* Welcome to new officers and our new Director at Large!
  + The new officers were introduced and offered the chance to speak to the rest of the attendees.
    - President - Andy Milluzzi
    - Vice President - Mike DiPersio
    - Secretary - Steve Martin
    - Treasurer - Ian Ward
    - Board Member at Large - Paul Bousquet
    - Trustee - Ken Kerns
  + Ian was asked to set up new email distribution lists for [officers@wd4wdw.org](mailto:officers@wd4wdw.org) and [info@wd4wdw.org](mailto:info@wd4wdw.org) to make email communication easier.
  + Ian completed setting up the [officers@wd4wdw.org](mailto:officers@wd4wdw.org) distribution list during the meeting, and mentioned that we also have a distribution list set up for field day.
* May meeting topic(s)
  + We will likely be having a virtual meeting due to the stay-at-home orders
  + David Glasser mentioned that the club name contains the word “emergency” yet we do very little preparation or training for emergencies. He suggested we have a future agenda item where we offer a workshop or come up with a plan of action to better prepare ourselves and make our capabilities known.
    - Andy suggested that we have Orange County ARES give an overview or discussion. We typically do not self-activate during emergencies.
  + Ian suggested that since we're approaching hurricane season and we're at home anyway it might be good to have a discussion on nets such as the national weather service’s SKYWARN net or the statewide SARNET net
    - Lots of discussion ensued about SKYWARN
  + Andy might be able to refer us to a Hurricane Warning session from the weather service
* WDW 50th Anniversary Planning
  + The WDW 50th anniversary will take place on October 1st, 2021 and we would like the club to participate in some way
  + We believe DEARS operated out of the Magic Kingdom near the Carousel of Progress for the 25th anniversary
  + Daniel Columbus has a QSL card from the 40th anniversary celebration that he will share with Andy
  + Paul Bousquet posted some good ideas to the club’s “#Disney-50th-planning” Slack channel. Andy asked that the attendees review them.
  + We could even extend the event to once a month, weekly, or whatever frequency people are available. The ultimate goal is to get people on the air.
  + We could have a weekend special event, a special callsign for the event, and provide special QSL cards
  + It would be great if we could operate from a park or resort, although that introduces complexities such as determining how non-cast members would gain entry into the parks and whether we could use our own setup or if we have to use a specified vendor
  + We need to get our station back up and operational
  + David Glasser expressed his interest in helping
  + We should bring the topic up during the general club meetings to get more feedback
* Field Day
  + We have a field day committee that has already met once in April
  + Paul offered to be the safety officer. We are still looking for a chef, operations manager, logistics manager (potentially Ricardo), etc.
  + We don’t know what new rules the Covid-19 virus will bring, but we should plan as if we’re still doing Field Day on-site as usual
    - We briefly discussed how we might do a remote field day if it becomes necessary. It would likely require changes to the official ARRL field day rules, and it would depend upon people having the proper equipment at their homes.
    - Mike DiPersio mentioned that some contesters operate remotely and then collectively put together their contacts. This could work for special events as well. Everyone operates from their home station. One problem is that field day normally requires all transmitters to reside within a 500-ft circle.
  + Daniel Columbus expressed his interest in joining us if he is in the area
  + Ian reminded everyone that we have a brand new 10x20 tent and two or three high-velocity fans that we had planned to use for field day
  + The discussions will continue on Slack channel “#fieldday” and perhaps an email distribution list

**New Business**

* Budget for FY21
  + Ian presented the existing budget we are operating under
  + We attempted to place actual dollars spent vs. what we budgeted so we could see the differences
  + We still need to go back and determine what purchases were made outside of the budget during the year
  + We still need to discuss what merchandise we would like to purchase going forward
  + We discussed adding the following items to the next budget
    - QSL cards
    - 50th anniversary
    - Van maintenance
    - Meeting raffle prizes
* Bylaws updates review and discussion
  + Andy posted a link to the current bylaws on the club’s “#general” Slack channel
  + David Glasser requested to know the status of the bylaws. Andy explained that anyone can propose amendments to be reviewed and voted upon in a future meeting.
  + Ian would like to propose that we remove the expiration date
  + Carlos suggested that we allow people to make their request and we discuss it at the next board meeting. He would like to see the club focus more on Ham activities and less on documents.
  + Steve was asked to post the current club bylaws on the club website and inform David Glasser once they are publicly available

**Open Discussion**

* Carlos suggested that we make new shirts for the club members
  + In the past Ken Kerns had a relative that would make them and ship them
  + Andy mentioned that we could potentially create our own once we have the logos and shirts
* Paul asked if there was a timeframe to determine what we do with the van
  + Andy responded that we technically have until January when the vehicle registration comes due
  + Ian suggested that we get a trailer instead, but that it might be difficult to haul around

Closure - 8:02pm