

Key City Amateur Radio Club Meeting Minutes

Proposed minutes to be approved at the November 2019 meeting.

KCARC Secretary Jacob Bachmeyer, **KE5WHG**

October 14, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 1903 by Allen Brooks, **KF5SPQ**.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by John Doerschuk, **KE5OVB**.

The invocation was given by John Smith, **KG7VB**.

Members introduced themselves. There were 23 members and 5 guests present.

A motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes and approve them as published was made by John Dyer, **AE5B** and seconded by John Smith, **KG7VB**. *The motion was carried.*

The Treasurer's report was presented by Peg Richard, **KA4UPA** and filed for audit.

Old Business

Website

Allen Brooks, **KF5SPQ** proposed moving the website to a new domain operated by Mike Roche, **KF5ZQB** and Bill Gauthier, **KG5ZRC**. A motion to approve the change was made by Ron Harden, Jr, **WT5X** and seconded by Jim Chandler, **N5COT**.

The motion was carried.

A motion to reimburse domain registration costs was made by Jim Chandler, **N5COT** and seconded by Dale Durham, **W5WI**.

The motion was carried.

New Business

Christmas Party

The KCARC Christmas party will be at 1830 on November 30th, 2019 in the Joe Allen's Corral Room.

Nominations

President

Allen Brooks, **KF5SPQ** was nominated by Dale Durham, **W5WI** and seconded by John Smith, **KG7VB**. A motion that nominations cease was made by John Dyer, **AE5B** and seconded by John Doerschuk, **KE5OVB**.

Vice President

Lynn Bailey, **K5AVJ** was nominated by Dale Durham, **W5WI** and seconded by John Smith, **KG7VB**. A motion that nominations cease was made by John Doerschuk, **KE5OVB** and seconded by John Dyer, **AE5B**.

Secretary

Jacob Bachmeyer, **KE5WHG** was nominated by Henry Kearny, **AE5SL** and seconded by Dale Durham, **W5WI**. A motion that nominations cease was made by Jim Chandler, **N5COT** and seconded by Carla Dyer, **K5RLA**.

Treasurer

Peg Richard, **KA4UPA** was nominated by John Doerschuk, **KE5OVB** and seconded by Dale Durham, **W5WI**. Jim Chandler, **N5COT** was nominated by Bill Gauthier, **KG5ZRC** and seconded by John Smith, **KG7VB**. A motion that nominations cease was made by Ron Harden, Jr, **WT5X** and seconded by John Smith, **KG7VB**.

A motion to close nominations was made by John Doerschuk, **KE5OVB** and seconded by Ron Harden, Jr, **WT5X**.

The motion was carried.

Meeting Schedule

A motion to return to monthly business meetings was made by Jim Chandler, **N5COT** and seconded by Dale Durham, **W5WI**.

The motion was carried.

Fundraiser

Jim Chandler, **N5COT** arranged an opportunity for the club to raffle off 3 guns at a cost to the club of \$1500, selling up to 500 tickets at \$20 each. A motion to take this opportunity for a fundraising effort for repeater repairs was made by Jim Chandler, **N5COT** and seconded by John Doerschuk, **KE5OVB**.

The motion was carried.

Speeches

Dale Durham, **W5WI**

Dale Durham, **W5WI** has been criticized and scrutinized for his efforts as West Texas Section Manager to keep the ARRL members informed about the League's activities and circumstances. There have been some scurrilous emails sent with little regard for facts. Dale Durham, **W5WI** has been making efforts to correct these facts, and urged members to sign up for emails from the Section and Division Managers.

Dale Durham, **W5WI** explained the procedure for voting in the ongoing election for the ARRL West Gulf Division Manager. The ballots must be received at ARRL headquarters by November 15th, and will be counted at noon on that day by an independent auditor.

John Stratton, **N5AUS**

John Stratton, **N5AUS** is running for reelection as ARRL West Gulf Division Manager and came to our meeting to give a campaign speech, summarized here. As he described, "The League depends upon the participation of the members." Of the 12,503 members in the West Gulf Division, only about 25–30% actually vote in ARRL elections.

This election is important because the long-standing ARRL President has retired and there have been struggles over the direction of ARRL. Efforts to refocus the ARRL on the members benefited when four directors were removed in a recent election—a record for the fewest reelections in ARRL history. As long as eight of the fifteen directors are focused on the members, the ARRL will follow.

The conflict is real. A senior manager at ARRL believes that local clubs are obsolete and should be replaced by social media, while a bill intended to cur-

tail HOA antenna restrictions at the Federal level was rewritten by HOA lobbyists, and the ARRL continued to support it. Stratton and others worked hard to spread the word to the membership and a broad base of opposition killed a bill that would have given HOA restrictions the force of law instead of removing them. A new bill is again in the works.

Our hobby faces problems. Stratton commented that everyone in the room looks somewhat similar. The average age in amateur radio is over 55 and the ARRL has about 157,000 members—about the population of Midland, TX. We need to expand our hobby to ensure that we can hold on to our spectrum allocations. The ARRL has efforts to bring more women, more people in computer and technically-oriented career fields, and more retirees into amateur radio. Amateur radio would be a good hobby for people in all of these groups, but the ARRL ultimately depends on local clubs to spread the hobby and once had programs to support the clubs on these endeavours. Those programs need to be restarted.

Stratton closed with a reminder that the members make the decision of where the League will go.

Door Prizes

Dale Durham, **W5WI** also brought a few door prizes. A drawing was held; copies of various ARRL publications went to Karen Saunders, **WL7KS**, Bill Gauthier, **KG5ZRC**, Ron Harden, Jr, **WT5X**, John Smith, **KG7VB**, Mike Roche, **KF5ZQB** and a 2019 *ARRL Handbook* went to a guest.

Believing that we had no further business, a motion was made by Jim Chandler, **N5COT** and seconded by John Smith, **KG7VB** to adjourn the meeting.

The motion was carried and the meeting adjourned at 2004.

Addendum: Forgotten Business

A quorum remaining present when the issue was remembered after the meeting adjourned, a motion to allocate \$176.96 for Web hosting costs for the new site was made by John Dyer, **AE5B** and seconded by Peg Richard, **KA4UPA**.

The motion was carried by a show of hands.