

Minutes, TCARC Board Meeting, 3 January 2008
7:00 PM, Fire Service Institute Building, Champaign IL

Present:

Ralph Cox W9PGE, President
Mike Trautman K9MLT, Vice President
Milt Forsberg K9QZI, Treasurer
Chris Anderson W9CMA, Secretary
Wayne Hamilton AB9FJ, Director
Jeremy Lamb KC9KGJ, Director

1. Chris distributed copies of the minutes of the Board meeting for December 2007. Milt moved to accept it as printed, Jeremy seconded, motion carried unanimously.

2. Milt distributed the year-end Treasurer's report. After a short review, Wayne moved to accept as printed, Chris seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

3. Mike presented upcoming meeting topics. This month, Bill Vokac K9BV will show how the Handi-Hams organization helps those with disabilities get ham licenses and on the air. February's topic is not yet set. Kermit Carlson W9XA is scheduled for a talk on D-STAR in March. Milt recommended that the Club offer to buy his dinner and reimburse him for his fuel expense. April's topic is tentatively an FM clinic, and Mike will check to see if Ben K9BF and equipment are available for that. May's topic is also not yet set, and we discussed various ideas, including DX clusters, Echolink/IRLP, and foxhunts.

4. The K9SI repeater is again using the old machine. W9SEH is being used regularly and Echolink activity is up, which is encouraging. Interest is growing locally in D-STAR, and if there is enough commitment, we may be able to negotiate a deal with Ham Station in Evansville. The cost is about \$3,000 for the RF Module and Controller. We need to consider site location, whether the Club should contribute to the cost or leave it to individuals, and if enough radios will be purchased locally to provide adequate activity.

5. The Annual Auction is set for April 12. There is concern over the management of equipment at the end of the auction. Apparently some items have not gone home with the proper owners in recent years, and a committee should be formed to work on our procedures, as well as look for auctioneers. Al has been in charge of food preparation and thus has been recommended for same.

6. Field Day is June 28/29. Ralph will formally request access to Ford Harris Park. He will also discuss food arrangements with Dave Moore. We evaluated the idea of the Club purchasing (and storing) a barbecue vs. renting one for the event. Wayne suggested donating one as a permanent addition to the Park. ARES participation was a plus in 2007, and we should encourage their participation in 2008. Number of stations has yet to be determined. It was felt that we should take more pictures and get attendee sign-ups. Wayne and Ralph will co-chair the Field Day Committee.

7. Policy to determine when and how to honor deceased TCARC members/spouses or prominent hams in the community: Milt moved to adopt as amended. Mike seconded. Unanimously approved. Chris will make changes and redistribute.

8. The chili supper after the January 27 VE session did not get arranged in time for the newsletter, so it will need to be moved to a later date, possibly in February.

9. Milt discussed the changes he has made to the Club web site, www.w9seh.org. He has fixed links, cleaned up formatting, and added links to D-STAR sites. Newsletters and Board meeting minutes have been reorganized and updated. Wayne suggested adding a link to AR Newslite.

Wayne moved for adjournment, Milt seconded, and we unanimously did so.

Addendum:

8 January 2008, Fire Service Institute Building, 7:00 pm, TCARC meeting, 21 attendees.
Bill Vokac K9BV gave a presentation on the Handi-Hams organization.