

Minutes, TCARC Board Meeting, 8 January 2009
7:00 PM, Fire Service Institute, Champaign IL

Present:

Mike Trautman K9MLT, President
Larry Mohr K9LMM, Vice President
Milt Forsberg K9QZI, Treasurer
Chris Anderson W9CMA, Secretary
Al Wolfe K9SI, Director
Wayne Hamilton AB9FJ, Director
Jeremy Lamb KC9KGJ, Director
Cassie Lee KC9KZG, Guest

1. Chris distributed the minutes of the December 2008 Board meeting. Wayne moved to accept them as printed, Larry seconded, motion carried with no objection.
2. Milt distributed the Treasurer's Report for December 2008, noting that dues are still coming in and expenses should continue to drop as members choose electronic (over mailed) newsletters. Even without the 2008 Auction, we'd still be in the black. Larry moved to accept it as printed, Wayne seconded, motion carried with no objection.
3. Our January meeting will be a video presentation: "Digital Voice for Amateur Radio", which comes in two parts, VHF/UHF and HF, which Deb N9DN picked up at a recent conference on digital radio. February may be our Chili Cook-off, if a location can be arranged; FSI is not a good one for food and the church may not be available that month (Al will check into that). If not, Al's talk on fractal antennas might work. March: software-defined radio.
4. W9SEH now has a voice ID and courtesy tone. The repeater site owner has given permission to have DSL installed. We cannot use the radio station's service and must have a new line installed. Milt and Larry will coordinate ordering and involve Al with the installation. Milt would like billing transferred to him as soon as possible. Al suggested moving EchoLink to the site as soon as we can after the Internet is available, if DSL will allow enough bandwidth. Milt agreed.
5. Auction date is set for April 11. Milt recommended identifying a Chair to round up volunteers. He also noted that now is the time to begin finding Door Prize donors (some vendors would be delighted but need advance time). Al suggested Dave W9DML. Jeremy will see closer to the date if he can provide anything. Al will coordinate food and will talk with Drew K9CW about the computer system. Milt will do talk-in and ticket sales. We discussed items not accepted and how to deal with unsold items.
6. Chris received a copy of last year's letter requesting the use of Ford-Harris Park for Field Day from Ralph W9PGE and replied it looked like a good template if we update the dates and addresses. Current status unknown.
7. No further on status of using Ford-Harris Park as supplemental EOC.
8. Club-sponsored activities: Technician classes, license upgrade sessions were mentioned. How to get interest? We need to target older people with time and money rather than trying to interest youth/teens, who have neither. Milt suggested that when we get the D-STAR Gateway up and running, we should have enough interest to hold workshops, given that there are around 20 radios locally so far.

Al moved to adjourn, Chris seconded. We adjourned.

Addendum:

13 January 2009, Fire Service Institute Building, 7:00 pm, TCARC meeting, 16 attendees.
DVD presentation of KN4AQ Gary Pearce's Amateur Radio Video News production of the VHF/UHF segment of "Digital Voice for Amateur Radio", provided by Deb N9DN.