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## September 23, 2017, Club Meeting

### I. Call to Order

President Nelson Spohnheimer W7KVI presided over the meeting which was called to order at 1005 PST. (Due to the absence of professional Secretary Brian Stapleton W7DFO, this month's records by Larry and Nelson are more terse than usual.)

### II. Greetings/Around the room

Attendees introduced themselves by name and call sign if applicable. Thirteen persons were in attendance.

### III. General Discussion

In general, attendees liked the new facility. Jim Monson stated that he had the door code, and there should be no problem making it available to board members with Chief Marrs' Ok. There is access to a small shared store room off the main meeting room. HARC may want to put in a locking cabinet to store coffee, antenna analyzers etc. There is additional storage elsewhere for items not needing routine access.

The Treasurer's report, Board Meeting Minutes, and General Meeting Minutes were accepted as published.

Repeater Status - The VHF repeater failed outright during the previous month, while the UHF repeater's transmit function had been slowly deteriorating for several months. Both were removed for service approximately 2.5 weeks prior to this meeting. ICOM no longer supports repairing either repeater. The VHF repeater was repaired by Nelson W7KVI and is ready for installation at FS 46 after the general meeting. The fix included replacement of HPA brick which cost \$65.00. The UHF machine repair is underway, and requires at least a driver transistor replacement along with a chip capacitor and possibly an inductor. The Repeater cabinet has only one fan operating; Nelson has ordered replacement fans. In addition, there is a need to build a splash guard for the overhead sprinkler system to keep water from getting into the cabinet.

## Committee Reports:

- The policy committee has published the update to include how the club will handle donated and consignment equipment for auction, sale on eBay, sale on Craig's list etc. Everyone was encouraged to read the update, especially the Auction Committee members.
- The Move Committee successfully coordinated this first meeting in Fire Station 28. There is more work to be done on cypher code access, storage, and familiarization with the audio-visual system.
- The auction Committee has received photos of property for disposition. Most of the items are suitable for a club auction. The next task is to create an inventory list and schedule an auction that fits within the club policy and calendar.

Zombie Fest 2017. This event was again successful. This year there were a few more emergency booths, and in addition the National Guard brought in a mobile mortar launcher and a self-propelled gun. Next year the HARC booth is expected to be included in the treasure hunt which should bring in a few more visitors to have their form stamped. A number of Zombie Fest pictures were shown to the membership.

EMCOM Issues were discussed. The VHF repeater was purchased by HARC. The UHF repeater was originally purchased by the SeaTac Fire Department, perhaps from its petty cash fund. Now that the RFA is in place, it appears neither the City of SeaTac nor the RFA may claim it. If it is not in any inventory, the Board recommends pursuing the possibility of individual members or the club acquiring it. This requires a letter or email from the fire department stating that they have no claims. Jim Monson stated he may be able to provide email communications supporting this issue.

Everyone was reminded that the 5<sup>th</sup> Saturday drill was coming and that simplex on the repeater output would be used if the repeater was down. (The VHF repeater was restored to service following the meeting.) Ken Higgins KE7GOW provided some discussion points for the membership in his absence, describing the drill in some detail and requesting that members who could participate should contact him by email prior to the drill.

The Christmas Dinner is coming up and there was discussion about where and when. The decision needs to be made relatively soon. Nelson W7KVI requested that anyone interested in helping contact him.

Mea Culpa: (from Nelson W7KVI) - I allowed a major omission to occur this meeting. I failed to announce that Al Mannings KI7IXS, expressed interest in serving

the club, and has been appointed a Trustee for the remainder of the term of Trustee Jim Warren AE7VR, who is moving from the area. Thanks very much, Al, and please accept my apologies!

#### **IV. Adjournment**

The General Meeting closed at 1137 PST to prepare for the program.

#### **V. Activities/Announcements/Presentations**

The program for the month was, "dBs - What they are and How they are used". The slides were an assortment of new and "borrowed" slides from other clubs. The main presenter was Nelson with contributions from Larry and other members. There was following discussion and everyone seemed to have high interest in the subject, which included a brief examination of using dB values in considering Earth-Moon-Earth (EME) communications.

The potential topics for the October meeting include, speculatively, an initial overview of the Winlink email system favored by many served agencies of the EMCOMM participants, and a small trial run of a club auction.

Prepared for Highline Amateur Radio Club

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Minutes drafted by acting secretaries Nelson and Larry in the absence of Brian Stapleton, W7DFO.

### **Club contact information:**

Club website is: <http://www.highlinearc.org>

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