

Approved Minutes

April 4, 2011

TARC General Membership Business Meeting

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Bill, N4WEB at 7:30 pm. Following the Pledge of Allegiance and member introductions, a quorum was not noted for business purposes.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Biff, K4LAW, read the Draft Minutes previously distributed via email to the membership. On motion by Keating, KC4HSI with a second by Mike, W4AFR the minutes were approved as distributed upon an affirmative vote of the membership.

TREASURER'S REPORT

In the absence of the Treasurer, Cindy, N4CDF, Bill, N4WEB reported an updated total in the general account of \$3581.41 and reminded all that dues for 2011-2012 were due. Joe, K4TJO moved to accept the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Mike, W4AFR and approved without opposition.

GENERAL BUSINESS, REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Keating, KC4HSI reported continuing problems with the 147.105 repeater, including damage to the antenna from the recent storms. The repeater antenna is leaning at about a 15 degree angle and will be fixed soon. This has not had any negative effect or positive effect on the repeater's continued performance problems. A new dummy load is going to be added in an effort to bleed off some of the additional RF that is causing the receive problem at the repeater site. The repeater borrowed from Mike, NI4M shows the same types of issues so the repeater itself is not the issue. The club 440 machine 443.025 is working fine and all are encouraged to use that machine when they can.

Carl, W4EIB, announced the Signalink had been installed and was working well in Position E, expanding the club capabilities to additional modes and functions such as SSTV and Winmore (email over HF).

Bill, N4WEB announced that the finals in the IC 756 Pro II in Position B were discovered Saturday to have burned out have not been replaced but the radio is at the factory repair center in Michigan and should be back in a couple of weeks. Bill, N4WEB also announced that the Microham switching was still non-functional, leaving the 40 meter beam on antenna 1 at position A and the 20 meter elements of the C31XR at antenna 1 at position C.

Biff, K4LAW, Field Day Chairman for 2011 discussed the progress of FD 2011 planning while the FD Food Bucket was passed around. Keating, KC4HSI has agreed to be responsible for securing vehicles to serve as operating positions. Carl, W4EIB has secured use of the Idlewild Baptist Church's emergency trailer for FD 2011. Joe, K4TJO will assume responsibility for our power needs. Bill, N4WEB volunteered to head the deployment of the stations in the field. Lu, W4LT has accepted responsibility for station automation and FD reporting.

Bill, N4WEB reminded everyone that TARCfest XXV was going to be held on April 16th.

Bill, N4WEB announced the April program was being handled by Lu, W4LT and it would be on contesting, timely in that the Florida QSO Party will be coming April 30-May 1.

Keating, KC4HSI, Hillsborough County EC discussed the after action information on the hospital surge drill (fka mass casualty drill). His main points were:

1. There were failures caused by lack of training
2. Problems with the V71 radio which no one was able to find manual for
3. Time was confused in paperwork (started at an earlier time)
4. 147.105 repeater was unreliable, simplex used as back up
5. MOSI did good job with their simplex net on VHF
6. Message traffic was not passed as expected
7. More training needed on DRats and Winlink
8. A full after action report is being prepared

Keating, KC4HSI announced the web site for public service events at www.hcaresraces.org. Event information can be obtained by writing to events@hcaresraces.org and training information can be obtained by writing training@hcaresraces.org. The web site also has all necessary registration forms.

Gary, W8SSB discussed the lack of a Skywarn net during the recent tornado activity. Keating, KC4HSI admitted that this was a missed opportunity. K4TJO stated he was on 80 meters during the hospital surge drill trying to get as many contacts as possible and that alternate frequencies should be considered based on propagation.

Joe, K4TJO inquired as to how to get the propane tank filled well in advance of FD 2011. Bill, N4WEB stated that there were plans to have the tank filled and that we would be on the list for service.

There being no further business to come before the membership, Becky, W4BKY moved to adjourn, Mike, W4AFR seconded the motion which passed without opposition. Adjournment occurred at 8:22 pm.

Respectfully Submitted.

Biff Craine, K4LAW
Secretary