

Minutes, TCARC Board Meeting, 5 February 2014
Culver's on Neil, Champaign, Illinois

Present:

Wayne Hamilton AB9FJ, President
Paul Toth N9XDN, Vice President
Milt Forsberg K9QZI, Treasurer
Chris Anderson W9CMA, Secretary
Kevin Coogan KC8RFE, Director
Al Wolfe K9SI

January 2014 Minutes approved as submitted.

January 2014 Treasurer's report approved as distributed. Milt clarified that dues are identified on a "cash paid" basis. Members who have failed to pay in 2012 and 2013 will be dropped from Newsletter distribution lists. Milt has adjusted budget entries for the Auction and other expenses in order to balance it and better reflect current cost expectations.

No further news on the trailer or 501(c)3 status.

The U of I's Synton Club had a net on Monday February 3 (444.650, 7pm) and, despite some equipment problems, it was successful. This new net is part of a push to get the repeater back in good working order and stimulate interest in the Club. In other repeater news, ClearTalk (a commercial system which shares tower space with our repeaters) is expanding and will be installing an Internet connection. We may be able to coordinate a move to it from our current DSL and improve our EchoLink and D-STAR reliability. We had a short discussion of issues relating to costs of repeater placement, tower work, maintenance, etc.

Al is waiting on word from Dennis Riggs (topic unstated) for the February meeting. Milt will try to get an HD copy of a video on the ARRL Centennial as an alternate. We discussed ideas for future meetings, including METCAD, Hal Communications, and Cobalt Digital.

The Auction is scheduled for March 22. Al has requested 18 tables and will check for conflicts with other organizations, in the hope that last year's issues can be avoided. Jim thinks his father is on track with the new auction software and thinks we will have something to test soon. We should probably make sure the old system is ready as a back-up.

Paul brought a list of items as part of his planning for Field Day. Items addressed:

Wayne confirmed the park is reserved for us.

Food: Hickory River for the meat, members bring side dishes.

Logging: Last year's bugs should be ironed out.

Antenna launching: Al has his potato launcher and will bring an air compressor.

Milt will get us into the ARRL Field Day Station Locator.

We should talk it up on the nets, set up a periodic repeater announcement, etc.

Publicity ideas: Newspaper, radio, television, signs/posters for public bulletin boards.

Our January 9 VE Session resulted in seven successful exams, although processing of the official licenses (after our submission) is taking a few days longer than in the past.

Regular monthly meeting, 11 February 2014, 133 Fire Services Institute Building, 22 attendees.
Video: **ARRL at 100: A Century of Ham Radio.**