

UNION COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY Meeting Minutes for September 17, 2020

Chris Whitaker, AE4WS opened the regular meeting at 7:04 PM with 7 members present.

Members in attendance:

Alfred KoKoszczyński, KC2GZI

David Keever, KV4N

Paul Corso, KK4PIB

Chris Whitaker, AE4WS

Greg Kreutzer, KO4FRH

Henry Hicks, K4HCH

Christopher Whitaker III, KK4WJL

1. Chris Whitaker (AE4WS) opened the meeting at 7:04 PM.
2. Tonight's meeting is being held at the Stallings Town Hall in Stallings, NC.
3. Attendees were requested to check-in.
4. August's meeting notes were reviewed.
5. Treasurer's Report given. Balance \$2,358.78
 - a. Had no expenditures for since the last meeting.
 - b. We will begin collections of dues for 2021 in October, all due by January 1, 2021
6. Short discussion of UCARS dues versus other clubs in the area. As UCARS does not have other income the dues may be higher than clubs with other income than dues.
7. Greg Kreutzer questioned the number of members on the roster sheet distributed for information.
 - a. The list distributes is not active paid members but individuals that may have been members but have dropped their membership or are not currently paid up.
 - b. There are two different rosters used in the club, one of active paid members and the other of past inactive members. The second list is provided so that other members can identify who someone is if not active.
 - c. Short discussion of where other clubs receive income.
8. Other clubs have 501C3 status which allows contributors to take a tax deduction.
 - a. Question asked why we not have 501C3 status, Process and future responsibilities is a concern.
9. Chris announced that elections are coming, an election committee was formed. The committee will present their recommendation of a slate of officers. That recommendation is presented at a meeting for approval. This is to be done in October.
10. We still have a pending location at Fire Station #4 in Monroe but due to Pandemic restrictions are still in place.
11. Greg suggested other Fire Department locations but still fall under the same restrictions for the Pandemic.
12. Announced next VE session on October 17th, location to be announced. Watch the NC4UC.org web site for updates. Need to check ARRL website to see how UCARS VE Session is listed.
13. In the past we have replaced the December meeting with a Christmas dinner, due to the Pandemic do we still want to plan a dinner?
 - a. Several locations (not understood) were mentioned that are open for meals. Chris will find a location and send out an email with information.
14. 50/50 raffle announced, tickets sold.
15. Received email from Ray Rising that he wanted us to change his email address. David to follow up.
16. Announced that we plan to have a Winter Field Day. We have a special call sign assignment, it is **K4N**.
 - a. Location to be determined
 - b. A description of what is "Winter Field day" was presented. The restrictions and guidelines for power and operation given.
 - c. Details to be determined next month.
17. Chris presented "the Fox Hunt" event. The requirements presented:
 - a. Will be a 2-meter transmitter (simplex operation)

- b. 2-meter repeater will be used for communications
 - c. Will remain in "Union County"
 - d. Need maps
 - e. No hiding in the woods.
 - f. The club will agree on the rules as they can vary per hunt.
 - g. Chris will create a list of guidelines, rules for the Fox Hunt and will distribute to the members on HCOL.
 - h. Preliminary date proposed is October 24th.
18. Repeater update, we are back on old antenna, but do not know how long it will last.
- a. 440 repeater is not in service, has been removed for test purposes.
 - b. Question is do we install Wires-X, is it a good investment if no one uses it?
 - c. We need antenna work at the repeater. Expense for replacement is the obstacle at this time.
 - d. Alfred asked if we could take donations for the repair.
 - e. Paul asked who is responsible for the tower, State of North Carolina.
 - i. Can we find out if they are having work done and make an agreement at that time for service at a reduced charge.
 - ii. Greg offered a Comet antenna if needed.
 - iii. A discussion of charges that clubs pay for tower usage and how it could effect UCARS in the future.
19. Any items for sale we can place on the Website.
20. Questions about Charlotte Hamfest, plan is to make decision of go or no-go 1st of the year.
21. Greg brought to meeting thoughts of being a member or active as a member of a club.
- a. Question brought forth is why the attendance is so low at meetings
 - b. Statement that UCARS members are checking into MARS and PAL Nets nightly but not UCARS Nets.
 - c. Is there a way to improve attendance on UCARS Nets?
 - d. Greg observed that other Nets have announcements during their Nets.
 - e. Greg observed that other Nets have nights for specialized subjects to be discussed.
 - f. Chris created a new position "Net Program Coordinator" and appointed Greg to that position.
 - g. Chris proposed that a short presentation be given on Thursday Nets on subjects dealing with an aspect of radio.
 - h. Question posed to Alfred as to what he would do, Alfred compared numbers of attendance for other clubs at Nets percentage and they were less than UCARS membership participation.
 - i. Greg is observing a lot of participation in other Nets due to conversations that occur during and after Nets about different subjects.
 - j. Various ideas were suggested, trivia, projects etc.
 - k. Greg asked to make presentation on Sunday Nets about different short subjects. Asked about changing time, but too many conflicts of other Nets to make a change.
 - l. Greg will present the following Sunday's presentation topic by Tuesday to Chris to be announced to the members.
22. Chris announced the 50/50 drawing winner:
- a. Alfred KoKo is the winner of the \$12.00, He donated to the club's treasury.
23. Chris closed the meeting at 8:27 PM

Coming Events: VE Session Scheduled for October 17th.