

Socorro Amateur Radio Association

www.socorroara.org

Minutes of the SARA Meeting May 9, 2012

Call to order:

7:35PM

Ray Calkins presiding.

15 members present.

Introductions:

No introductions

Announcements:

No announcements

Minutes:

Jim Lommen moved to approve the April minutes with a correction on the date of the Treasurers Report

Treasurer:

Treasury: by Jim Lommen KC7QY

	<u>SARA Account</u>	<u>TARA Account</u>	<u>checkbook balance</u>
4/1/2012 balance:	\$5,218.38	\$320.08	\$5,538.46
Debits:	\$1,120.99	-	-\$1,120.99
Deposits:	\$655.00	-	\$655.00
5/1/2012 balance:	\$4,752.39	\$320.08	\$5,072.47

Membership renewals due:

Howard Peavy

Past due:

None

ARES:

Vern says that work on the ARES radio room has continued and the room has been cleaned up. It is nearing completion and is looking good. The regular Wednesday night VHF nets and Sunday HF nets are still being held.

LEPC:

Doug May reports that LEPC meets next Thursday at 10AM in the EOC.

Charter School:

Jon Spargo reports that the students are cramming for the exam on the 19th of this month at 1:00PM. There will be one more study session before the exam. After the exam, Jon will return the books that were used except for one student who fell behind and will study over the summer for the Hamfest exam.

Jon doesn't know yet which students from this year will continue studying next year. If there are enough students he will have two classes per week.

TARA

There has been no club activity. Brad tried to hold some meetings during the semester but interest was lost.

Vern suggested pizza at the meetings, which is a valid promotional technique, but there is no active club president to arrange for the meetings or the pizza.

Doug May suggests that SARA, as a member of the Chamber of Commerce, will be invited to Community Day on campus. A table could be set up to attract new members.

Jon suggests a "weekend blitz" study session with studying all weekend and a VE session on Sunday afternoon.

Elections

Jim Lommen stated that quorum was met with 13 members present for the election out of 37 members in good standing on the roster.

Ray Calkins said that all sitting officers volunteered to run for a second term at the same post. Ray said that according to the club bylaws, there should be a written notice of the election, but there is a procedure for the waiver of the notice.

Jim Lommen said we need a motion to accept a waiver to decline the written notice of the election. Jon Spargo made the motion and Vern Leavitt seconded it. There was no discussion.

The motion to accept a waiver for written notification of the election passed.

Ray Calkins opened the floor to nominations. There were no new nominations for candidates, leaving the sitting officers as the only nominations.

Vern made a motion to accept the slate as nominated by acclamation.

Jon Spargo seconded.

Doug May thanked the nominees.

The motion to accept the nominees passed unanimously.

Old Business:

D-STAR:

Ray Calkins reported that a crew went up on the mountain, did some planning, and found a piece of unused heliax that leads to a good mounting point. The equipment is assembled at Prescott's house. Ray and Brad have been studying to install the software.

Jim Boswell says that he hasn't been able to find the receipt for the power supply so he would like the record to show that he is donating it.

Jon asked what sort of backup power would be available. Bear said that the county is working on providing a generator to power everything in the building that houses the repeater.

Hamfest:

Vern says that the site is reserved. The church Banquet room should be available.

Jim Lommen says that he put in the paperwork for the lodgers tax money. He says that, this year, everyone who put the application in will have to make a presentation about how the money will be used.

The issue of advertising for the banquet came up again. Prescott has a supplier for postcards, which are cheaper than flyers.

A few suggestions for advertising were put forth but none stuck.

Doug May made a sign to advertise SARA events that uses a professionally printed insert. He recommends that we budget a small amount of money, on an annual basis, for replacement inserts to gradually build up a supply for Hamfest, Field Day, and VE sessions.

The discussion was postponed.

Field Day:

Jim Boswell hasn't yet made the measurements for the station layout but he will make sketches soon. He would like to set up a GOTA station, a VHF station and two HF stations. He will have a sign-sign up sheet so that we have an idea who will be stationed at the radios and when. He will get all of the batteries that are brought and load test them to make sure that there are no duds. He suggests purchasing a locking cabinet for the radio room so that equipment that we have gather for field day can be securely stored and ready to go. He will also look into setting up in a corner that is farther away from the power lines.

Ray has reserved the field and restroom.

Doug May asked what happened to the Confederate Retreat Reenactment. Ray said that it took place without him ever being contacted.

New Business:

Jim Boswell has confirmation on the 70cm interference is from the Department of Defense. He provided some printed spectral plots. He suspects the predator drones.

Announcements

Doug May reports that there is rumor that there may be a commercial radio station in the works. This brought up the discussion of a weather radio system that Bear says is caught up in a policy catch-22.

Bear was in Las Vegas, NM last week at a technician class. He stayed at the Plaza Hotel and he reports that the trout is very good. Another night he was at the the El Fidel and the mousse of the day was also very delicious.

Adjournment: 8:44PM

Brad Smith KD5JNI
Secretary