



Minutes of the Socorro Amateur Radio Association meeting July 13, 2016

Meeting called to order at 7:30 by Jim Lommen KC7QY

The meeting began with a presentation about Tech Trek by Jim Lommen KC7QY.

Tech Trek is a science-math-technology camp for eighth-grade girls held at New Mexico Tech. Jim and others talked about and demonstrated ham radio; it was well received. For more information see <http://techtrek-nm.aauw.net/>

Dave Finley N1IRZ then gave a report on the Chile Harvest Triathlon which will be July 29 and 30, starting at Sedillo Park. Radio operators are needed, as usual. For more information see <http://www.chileharvesttri.com/>

Announcement: AES (Amateur Electronic Supply) is closing after 59 years in business.

Bear Albrecht W5VZB did a Show & Tell about the goTenna, a low-power spread-spectrum radio operating in the range of 151 to 154 MHz. They are sold for \$199 a pair (since one by itself can't do anything). The goTenna unit makes a Bluetooth connection to its companion (paired) phone, and provides text and mapping connections between smartphones, independent of the cell phone system. For more information see goTenna.com

The business meeting proceeded with approval of the proposed agenda on a motion by Jon Spargo (seconded and passed). The minutes of the June 6 2016 meeting were approved as posted, again with a motion by Jon Spargo (seconded and passed).

Anneliese Bowman gave the Treasurer's Report. She has personally paid up the insurance and requested reimbursement; a motion for same was made by Jon Spargo, seconded and passed.

Al Braun gave the ARES report: the only unusual activity was a request for relief operators for support at the Dog Head fire.

Jon Spargo gave the Charter School report: we are getting close to being able to reestablish the station. A work party will be needed when the time comes.

There was no TARA report due to the absence of Dave Johnson

The Hamfest report was given by Jim Lommen, with an aside about the Duke City Hamfest (August 12–14): SARA will have a table, which itself is free. Admission must be paid by attendees, \$8 in advance or \$10 at the door, good for the whole weekend. Jon Spargo made a motion to reimburse attendees who man the SARA table for at least two hours; motion seconded and passed.

Our hamfest will be October 15. We do have a speaker for the banquet (on the evening of the 14th), although the venue has not been finalized. It will probably either be at the Bodega or Epiphany Episcopal Church. Setup at the Fire Academy starts 2 to 3 PM on Friday.

Old business:

Reroofing the shed – no discussion due to absence of Dave Johnson

Repeater discussion – none

Digipeaters — Bear Albrecht and Glenn Mauger made two trips up to the mountain; the digipeaters were taken to Paul Choc and tuned up, and then reinstalled, and one of the antennas was replaced.

New Business: We may have a picnic in Water Canyon as we did last year, tentatively September 18 (with optional camp out 17th). Jim Lommen will check on availability of the group camp.

There was no further business, and the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Ray Calkins at about 8:32.

Secretary Bear Albrecht W5VZB