

2015/10/24 October 2015 Meeting Minutes

General meeting

Dave WA7DGW called the meeting to order at 8:00 AM in the Providence Medical Center, Colby Campus, Rainier Room, at 8:00 AM...

## PRELIMINARIES

**Introductions:** First-time visitors, new members and members introduced themselves.

**50/50 Raffle:** Tickets were on sale for the raffle. Cost is \$1 per ticket or six for \$5; half of the raffle income is applied towards gifts at the Christmas Party.

**T-shirts/patches:** Shirts were available. Interested parties see quartermaster Phil Meyer KG7OSO and pay Treasurer Randy AJ7B. More tee shirts will be ordered in January 2016.

**FISTS - CW training disks:** These are available for free. Ask quartermaster Phil in back.

**Club promotions:** Business cards and informational brochures are available as handouts to assist when talking about amateur radio.

## REPORTS

**Treasurer's report:** Randy Mather AJ7B gave the Treasurer's report through October 18, 2015, details for which have been posted on the website. Motion to approve the report was seconded and passed.

**Minutes:** Dave Cornell W9LD mentioned that minutes for the September 26, 2015, meeting have been on the website. Motion to approve minutes was seconded and passed.

**VE report:** Loren Hole KK7M reported that the VE team served 26 people in the last month, examining after the education class, and after the September meeting. Details are filed with minutes.

**Education report:** Jim Ludden K7KFB said that the Tech-General class met on October 16, 17, & 18. Nineteen persons took part, resulting in several new Tech and General Licensees. The class was judged to be excellent in terms of instruction, support, and results.

**Tech group:** Curt Green N7OBI was absent. Next time the group will build cubical quads and J-poles.

**EMCOMM Committee report:** Bob Wheeler KC7QT, no report.

**DX report:** Frank Remington K7GSE reported that HF bands have been active in recent days, including ten meters openings. This weekend is the CQ worldwide SSB contest. New DXpedition is Willis Island, VK9WA, smallest island in the Pacific Ocean, operating November 12-21. For reasons of Hurricane Patricia protection, stay away from 7065 kHz, the emergency net frequency for Mexican traffic.

**Repeater update:** Rob Salsgiver NR3O reported that he has a third fusion repeater for experimentation. Tech Group will interact with it for learning purposes.

**Field Day:** Don, ex-KG7HBT, aka K7DDW, volunteered to be Coordinator for FD 2016.

## OLD BUSINESS:

**Salmon Run:** Dave WA7DGW reported that the Club netted over 160,000 points, scoring placing us eighth in the State for the contest.

**2016 Officers:** Names of elected officers for 2016 have been posted on the Club website.

**Bigfoot 120:** The activity was supported by some Club members, and went very well.

**Christmas Party:** Jess KD7PZ reported that the food coordination is complete. Attendees were reminded to bring a side dish or salad. Dennis, W7DEB is helping with decorations. Setup will begin at 10:00 AM, Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup>. Rob NR3O will be Emcee at the party. Location is Bakerview Community Center, 1401 Poplar St. Everett, entrance on the north side. Dave WA7DGW reported on spending level for prizes to indicate the quality level that they represent.

## NEW BUSINESS:

**Fusion Repeater discussion:** Both UHF and VHF repeaters have been installed, having digital and analog capability. The issue is how the two should be used. Various points of view were expressed, including 1) keeping the UHF machine on auto/auto for digital (and analog) operation, 2) increasing UHF machine range so that users can reach it as well as the VHF machine, 3) keeping the VHF machine on auto/auto to provide for digital, analog and Echolink operation, and 4) use of the digital receive tone (103.5) to inhibit digital noise from being received by an analog radio. Technology may progress in the near future to provide for the VHF repeater to serve Echolink and FM only. Currently, control operator Frank K7GSE has an analog only radio, which cannot interpret digital signals, except to hear noise. Owing to the fact that this discussion is early in our experience with the new repeaters, while adjustments are being made by users to the system, the discussion was mainly for education, and will be continued next month.

**Bylaw proposal 2.5.3:** Dave WA7DGW read the text. Bylaw ratification by membership vote will occur at the November meeting. The text of proposed Bylaw 2.5.3 follows:

### Section 2.5.3 Life Members

2.5.3 Silent Key, any life member who's surviving spouse is not a life member, however is currently licensed by the FCC as an amateur radio operator in good standing. The club will pass to that person the full life membership.

**Bylaw proposal 5.1.6:** Dave W9LD read the text. Bylaw ratification by membership vote will occur at the November meeting. The text of proposed Bylaw 5.1.6 follows:

### **5.1.6 REPEATER ENDOWMENT INVESTMENT FUND POLICY.**

This policy shall be maintained by the Board after its initial approval by a vote of the membership. The policy can be subsequently changed by a simple majority vote of the Board in any Board meeting. EXCEPTION: The purpose of the funds, as outlined in the policy, cannot be changed except by a vote of two-thirds or more of the members at any regular club meeting where there is a quorum of fifty percent or greater of the membership.

**Repeater Endowment Fund Policy:** This policy requires ratification by membership at the November meeting for its establishment. In future it might change by Board action. With that understood, Tom K7AFA read the policy statement, which follows:

**Investment Policy for  
the Repeater Endowment Investment Fund  
October 24, 2015**

**A. Overview:** The Snohomish County Hams Club ["Club"] has an endowment fund named the "Repeater Endowment Investment Fund." The purpose of this fund is to accumulate donations over time to build the means to continue to fund and operate one or more repeaters in Snohomish County, Washington. The purpose of this policy document is to provide binding guidance to the Club for the collection, investment, management, and spending of the Repeater Endowment Investment Fund. This investment policy is authorized under the Club's bylaws as duly approved in a meeting of the Club's members, and changes to this policy can be made by a majority vote of the Board in any regular or special Board meeting. EXCEPTION: The purpose for the Repeater Endowment Investment Fund, as defined above in this paragraph, can ONLY be changed by a vote of two-thirds or more of the members at any regular club meeting where there is a quorum of fifty percent or greater of the membership.

**B. Fund Management:** The Repeater Endowment Investment Fund shall be managed by a Committee [Repeater Endowment Investment Fund Committee] of at least three Club members in good standing. Specific management policies:

1. Choice of investment broker or changes of brokers shall be pre-approved by Board resolution. Brokers cannot be Club members or immediate family members (spouse, ancestor, descendant, married to descendant, sibling, or in-laws).
2. Initial Committee members shall be as follows:
  - a. Position 1 First Term: Loren Hole, KK7M – 3 year term ending December 31, 2018.
  - b. Position 2 First Term: Don Anderson AB7V – 2 year term ending December 31, 2017.
  - c. Position 3 First Term: Tom Hutchison NKPPK – 1 year term ending December 31, 2016.

Those initial Committee Members shall take office as soon as this Policy is duly adopted, and that additional time in office shall not subtract from the time windows outlined in 2a through c above. These Members can each run for a second three-year term if they so desire without being off the committee for a period of 1 year.

3. Subsequent Repeater Endowment Investment Fund Management Committee Members shall be appointed by the Board, as the three rotating positions are scheduled to become vacant, in the Board's first meeting after the general election each year. These appointments shall be for three-year terms. Any Committee member can volunteer to be in the selection pool for subsequent terms, with a maximum Committee tenure of six consecutive years. After break of one full year or longer, any member may reapply to serve to the selection pool for additional service on the Committee. President, Secretary, and Treasurer are not permitted to be members of this Committee, and this restriction overrides what otherwise would have been a three-year tenure. Committee members can be removed at any time for cause by vote of the Board. Any vacancies that occur for any reason other than the expiration of the term for that position shall be filled by resolution of the Board at the earliest possible time. These replacement Committee Members filling partial terms will be considered to be filling the remaining term for that position, and may be re-elected for subsequent terms if such election will not take that person's cumulative time beyond the six consecutive year limit. During periods where there are only two acting Committee members, there must be consensus between the two for any investment decision. If there is an impasse, the Board shall decide by resolution. If Committee membership declines to one or zero members, then, the Board shall make all investment decisions until at least two members are on the Committee

4. Choices of purchases or sales of specific investments shall be made by a majority vote of the Committee, with the exception outlined in B.3. In the absence of a decision by the Committee or disagreement with the Committee, the Board can make any investment decision by ordinary resolution. This must be approved by two thirds of Board members.

5. The Club Treasurer shall have access to all reports and statements of the Repeater Endowment Investment Fund in any financial institution used by the fund. The Committee shall make reports to the Board no less than quarterly.

6. The Repeater Endowment Investment Fund Management Committee shall be restricted from high-risk or speculative investments and practices, including, but not limited to, short sales, puts and calls, option trading, futures trading, currency or precious metals trading, "day trading," etc., in favor of more "conservative" vehicles, including, but not necessarily limited to: savings accounts, certificates of deposit, money market funds, mutual funds, and when in a diversified portfolio, stocks and bonds. \

**C. Fund Objectives:** The Repeater Endowment Investment Fund has several objectives, and some are in natural tension with the others, requiring a thoughtful balancing of risks and benefits.

1. The Club's intent is to grow the Repeater Endowment Investment Fund over time through both additional contributions and earned income.
2. To the extent possible, the Repeater Endowment Investment Fund should be in a diversified investment or investments to minimize risk during market fluctuations. Where diversification is not possible or economically reasonable due to inadequate principal to invest in a broad portfolio of investments, the objective shall be to invest in a single investment vehicle or few vehicles that are largely risk-free of loss of principal until principal gets to a point where diversification is more economically feasible.
3. To meet Objective C2, the Repeater Endowment Investment Fund shall be limited to vehicles specifically enumerated in paragraph B.5, except stocks and bonds until the fund reaches a value of \$10,000.
4. To meet Objective C.1., only the income from the previous Club year, (not the principal) may be used by Snohomish County Hams Board to maintain, expand or otherwise enhance WA7LAW Repeater. The principal investments must remain intact and continue to generate ever increasing usable income. If the previous year's income is not used, it is added to principal in January of the year following the year it was not used, and it is no longer available for use.
5. Where financially possible, all Members of the Repeater Endowment Investment Committee should be covered by either a liability insurance policy or be bonded, with all fees paid for by the Club.

The Snohomish County Hams Club Board of Directors, through Board resolution, hereby adopts the above Investment Policy for the Repeater Endowment Investment Fund of the Snohomish County Hams Club.

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Secretary

## Calendar:

**Russian Worldwide Multimode Contest, Oct. 31 & Nov. 1** (CW, SSB, RTTY, BPSK63) (See rules at <http://www.rdrclub.ru/news-radio/russian-ww-mm-contest/159-rus-ww-multimode-contest>)

**Christmas Party**, December 12, 2015, 6PM, Bakerview Community Center. Those willing to help please contact one of the directors: Jess Ray AD7PZ, Jim Blake KD7JB, or Don Anderson AB7V. Setup will begin at 10:00 AM. All helping hands are welcome.

## Extra:

**50/50 Raffle:** Winner of drawing was Alan, K7NWR. Total of \$149 was collected and Alan gave his \$74 share back to the Club. So a total of \$149 was donated to Christmas Party prizes.

**Radio for repeater control operator Frank K7GSE:** Rob NR3O moved, and it was second, that the Club purchase a Yaesu FT1DR radio for Frank as control operator. The motion passed unanimously. Treasurer was instructed to purchase the radio.

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 9:30 AM.

**Program:** Randy AJ7B presented a program about SWR, how to understand it and use it.

Respectfully submitted

Dave Cornell, W9LD, Secretary

Approved

Dave Williamson, WA7DGW, President