

Snohomish County Hams Club
General Membership Meeting Minutes

Zoom Meeting

0900 March 27, 2020

1. The meeting was called to order at 0900 by the Dave SomersKI7DPP. The meeting was recorded. Here is the link.
<https://youtu.be/LcF3X24wrtg>
2. Welcome
 - A. Zoom Etiquette and Protocols (Dave KI7DPP)
 - a. First & Last Name plus Call Sign in Screen Name
 - b. Keep yourself muted unless you are called upon to speak
 - c. Use the Hand Raising function in Zoom if you want to speak. The moderator will be watching for raised hands. You can use the Chat or the Hand Raising.
 - B. We will be recording this Zoom meeting and posting it for members to watch (probably on YouTube because the file is too large to send by email). If you have any concerns about being recorded, we wanted to make you aware so that you can turn off your video if you wish.
 - C. Any First Time Visitors/Guests? Riley. There was an echo in the sound and Anne didn't get any of his detailed info.
3. Reports
 - A. Secretary's Report - Anne K2MTN announced that the minutes of the last meeting in February 2021 had been posted on the Club website 3/14/2021. She requested approval of the posted minutes. A motion was made (by Randy AJ7B) to accept the minutes as posted; it was seconded (by Cowboy Dave Owen KI7HSB) and approved by vote. No questions.
 - B. Treasurer's report – Randy AJ7B announced that the monthly Treasurer's report had been posted on the Club website. He screen-shared the report. Income of \$760.08 and Expenses of \$43.25 (Trailer tabs). Checking Account Balance of \$9,529.81, Repeater Maintenance Fd \$605.47, Repeater Endowment Fd \$14,275.37, General Investment FD \$515.07. No questions. A motion was made to accept the report as posted (by Anne K2MTN); it was seconded (by Roger Hoot KF7WVT) and approved by vote.
 - C. VE Report - Randy said we didn't have any VE Testing but several members have joined the Lake Washington Amateur Radio Club (LWARC) and that group has had 380 people pass VE exams since the beginning of 2021. Randy also wanted to bring up the new FCC Fees Rule Change which increases the Fees for getting a license or renewing a license. The FCC submitted the new Rule to the Federal Registry on March 19th. The new Rule will raise the Fee to \$35 for Hams. It will become active and enforceable on April 19th. However, because there is money involved and they must tell Congress and update their online system...the new Fees won't start until sometime later in the summer. So, the result is that people wanting VE testing will pay \$15 for VE testing. And, then you will pay the FCC \$35 for the new license or upgraded license. If it

is just a change of Call Sign, then you will pay \$35 to the FCC for that. If it is only an address change that is needed, there will be no charge for that. Roger Hoot asked if we will be able to renew early to avoid the charge? Randy said you must be within 90 days of your license expiration before you can submit a renewal of your license. Reminder, we don't know what day the new Fees will go live in the system. Victor Harris later added that everyone should be aware that the 10-year renewal date is based on your original Ham License date. So, if you have upgraded to General or Extra level...your renewal date would be based on your original Tech VE Exam date.

D. Education report – Jim Blake KD7JB said there is not a lot to report. He is still getting questions about when we are going to start teaching classes again. He told them we are waiting for news from Providence about our venue being open where we have taught in the past. There is still a lot of interest in Face-to-Face Classes. We have no plans for an online course currently.

E. New Member Introduction – Anne K2MTN said there were no new members this month

F. List of Attendees – Anne K2MTN read a list of the members attending today using her attendance sheet and the names listed in the participant's window. There were 42 members.

G. Repeater Update

a. New Repeaters - Rob NR30 said there is not a whole lot to report because he has been spending his time with email. The Battery Backup for the Repeaters has been approved by the Board and is in the Budget for this year. So, we just need to get it and get it set up.

b. Old Repeaters – Henry KH6VM added that Windows updates are still our biggest efforts. He is looking at a Raspberry Pi version in his spare time. There is a version in Raspberry Pi by one of our Club members. Getting a Battery Backup would be awesome. It is a noisy location where the repeater is ...especially because it is in the elevator shaft.

4. Old Business

A. Net Controllers Status. (Jim Blake KD7JB and Kerry Burnette KC7YL) Kerry said that they are having a Class tomorrow at 6:30pm 3/28/21 to do some "How To" and "Questions and Answers" about Net Control protocol. Then, the class will observe Jim Blake doing Net Control on Zoom. Following the Sunday Net, there will be a half hour debrief. If you are interested in the Class, send Kerry an email and she will send you a link. If you are interested in being Net Controller during weekly Nets, please contact Ray to apply.

B. Financial Investment Committee Position (Dave KI7DPP) We are still looking for someone for the Financial Investment Committee Position. Someone who is knowledgeable about investments is desired for this position. Please let Ray know if you are interested in this position.

C. Thursday Evening Training Class (John N7AME) John said that things are going well. We have anywhere between 6 to 14 people. Last week we covered Contesting. Today we are going to

talk about Roving. He requested everyone join him on Thursday Night. He said that other members have contributed their knowledge on Thursday Nights and that is helpful. Dave commented that the members of the Club all appreciate John's efforts to do these Thursday Night Classes.

5. New Business

A. Mailing List Update/Groups.io (Rob NR30) Rob gave some status on the plans for email Reflector List replacement. We've been setting up the new groups and trying to make sure all the lists are parallel to the existing systems. There will be invites sent out about an hour after the meeting today. There should be one for each list you are on. There will be a separate invite for the SCHC-Announce List from the SCHC-Membership List. When you open the invite and select Yes, it will ask you to set up an Account if you are a new user. You would set up your own ID and password which is unique to your Login...kind of like in email applications. If you do not receive an invite by end of day today...let Rob know. Roger asked if there will be a cut-off date for the old system? Rob said that he will send the invites and figure out how many are still pending. Rob will announce using both the new and old lists that we are making the transition and shutting down the old list. Bruce Gary asked about what specific Lists are available. Rob said that there is a "List of Lists" on the Club website. They need to be updated...and most of the non-general lists are infrequently trafficked. Having enough traffic on the sub-topic lists is something that Rob has wondered about. Bruce asked if it is okay for him to put his questions out to the general membership on the SCHC-Membership list? Rob said, that is exactly what the list is for. If you have questions, that is what the list is for. Don't change a thing. Anne brought up that sometimes Board members send an email to the whole group and request that people respond directly to us by our direct email. Anne said that in those cases, she would rather that people copy and paste that email into a fresh email and respond directly to her, rather than doing a reply-all to the list. A member mentioned that when someone wants a reply directly to them, the sender should be sure to put their direct email into the email sent. He asked if we are going to allow new group creation under the new Groups.io. Rob said that he is not sure yet. Rob also added, sometimes people feel more comfortable doing a reply to the email they received from the list and that is okay. He plans to send some "How To" type emails with instructions on several topics after we have transitioned to the new Groups.IO. The other thing that is kind of useful is that you can "mute" a topic in Groups.IO. So, if a certain topic has been going on for a while and you don't wish to participate, you can mute that topic of conversation. Roger said that a lot of people forget or do not realize that a Roster with emails is posted on the Club website, and people can easily look up someone's email if needed. Sometimes people forget the password to the website. Anne would be happy to help people who have lost the password. You can reach her at Secretary@WA7LAW.org if you need to password and you have lost it. The List of Lists is under the email Reflector section. Gary Evans brought up that he hopes we are still open to newbie questions because it helps us all learn... and we as a Club support our newbie members. Dave supported that sentiment. We, of course, don't want to discourage our newbies from asking questions. Dave mentioned the "digest" feature to summarize the emails by day before sending them.

B. 7QP Status (Tim KJ7AKV) Dave mentioned that we want to discuss when we should start "in person" events for the Club. Since we are moving into Phase 3 ...should we start moving into

small groups? Tim has done a few emails about 7QP and has had a few replies. He will merge the replies and send an update later today. Basically, you pick a time slot and the band width you want to be on...and your Call Sign. He will merge it all together and send it out on the Friday before the event (4/30) with a final version about who is on what slot for what band. It is a requirement of the event that we only have one person using the Club Call Sign for each band at a time. Tim mentioned that John suggested having a Zoom participation event...He knows it is not the same as being in-person but being able to see and here someone working the radio during the contest will give helpful info about how to participate. Dave Cornell asked is it necessary to use the Club Call Sign? Tim said that if you use the Club Call and then you send the logs to him to include with the Club log...that is how you can do it. John said that people can also use their own Call and submit your own log with it labeled Snohomish County Club on it...and be included in the aggregate. Jim Blake asked if there is a restriction on location...Tim said that you must be within Snohomish County to participate using the Club Call Sign. Dave Cornell can operate using his own Call Sign and submit it for the aggregate score. Curt Green said that for Field Day it will be the same as last year. Tim will check with the rules people in Oregon about members who are out of area and what the rules are. Gary Evans asked if 7QP is HF only? Yes, it is HF only. Dave mentioned that going forward we will need to discuss and decide what to do about in person events.

C. Donation of Yaesu FT-2000 Radio by Curtis Green N7OBI (Dave KI7DPP) The Club wants to thank Curtis Green N7OBI for his generous donation to the Club. Curtis said that it has a band scope function and lots of good filtering. On the band scope you can see how the filter is affecting the signal. Roger asked if for Field Day, the Club could use that radio as a training device? He said we should consider a special designation for that on Field Day. Curt donated a monitor to go with it. It is a separate monitor. Curt mentioned that you can also switch and look at Grey Line and it has other features.

6. The meeting was adjourned at 9:55am. Moved by Anne K2MTN second by Rob N3RO, passed by vote.

Presentation: John Van Dalen N7AME presented a program on "Roving".

Submitted by Anne Garay K2MTN
SCHC Secretary