

Western Washington Amateur Relay Association

General Membership Meeting Minutes August 7, 2004

The August 7, 2004, General Membership meeting was held at Mercer Island Fire Station # 91. Chairman John Schurman-AA7UJ called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

INTRODUCTIONS:

Introductions were made and a sign-in sheet was circulated. In attendance were:
John Schurman-AA7UJ, Roger Hansen-W6TOZ, Carter Powell-W7IAG, Ed Bruette-N7NVP, Steve Szombathy-W7UDI, Jon Marcinko-WR7JM, Herman Entz-K7PAG, Al Burleson-K7HW, Peter Dahl-WA7FUS, Jim Etwiler-KD7BAT, Bill Balzarini-KL7BB, and Mark McClain-N6OBY.

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING:

A motion carried to approve the June 3, 2004, General Meeting minutes.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Roger-W6TOZ presented the current Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss statement and went over the highlights. There were no questions and a motioned carried to accept the financial report as submitted.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Mark-N6OBY reported that he has been researching a hosting option instead of attempting to maintain our own hardware and software as discussed at our last meeting. It appears that Hostway offers the features that we would need to support the Access database, and the types of email accounts and email responders we need. It seems far more attractive from a financial basis to spend \$50-70 per month for a hosted solution than to try to put up our own server that would require several thousand dollars up front just for the necessary software.

ADJACENT AREAS:

B.C.: Jon-WR7JM asked if anyone from the WWARA attended the BCARCC annual meeting. John-AA7UJ reported that nobody could make it this year.
ORRC: Nothing reported.
IACC: We need to find out if Doug Rider has retired. Jon-WR7JM will send him an email.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Technical: Nothing reported.
6/10 Meters: Board actions: None. Ed-N7NVP provided a review of his Band Chair Report that had one Pending application.
2 Meters: Board actions: None. There are three active Polls at this time. Pete-K7PP was not able to attend, but the group reviewed the Band Chair Report that Pete submitted prior to the meeting.
220 Band: Board actions: There was no Board action. Peter-WA7FUS reviewed his Band Chair Report which had one Pending application.
UHF Rptrs: Board actions: None. Steve-W7UDI reviewed his Band Chair Report with the group. It consisted of: 4 applications that were approved by the Board, 7 applications that are in Test, 3 applications that are under construction, 2 applications on Hold, and 10 applications that are Pending and/or new.
UHF Links: Board actions: There was no Board action.
900/1.2: Board actions: None. Gene-W7UVH was not at the meeting and no Band Chair Report was available.

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NFCC: Nothing discussed. John-AA7UJ said that the NFCC have done nothing productive for several years and he not sure why they exist.

OLD BUSINESS:

Review of UHF Links and Band Plans : Not discussed other than Jon-WR7JM and Steve-W7UDI are comparing notes.

Review of Band Plans: The Secretary has uploaded to the Board YahooGroup Files the text files that exist for our Band Plans (all except 6-meters). Copies of the Band Plans that were published in the last printed version of the WWARA Northwest Repeater Directory were handed out to each of the Band Chairs. The page copies have written-in corrections and minor changes from the Secretary's copy of the Directory.

The Secretary handed out draft copies of a new WWARA Repeater Directory to all members present at the meeting. The Directory currently contains repeater and link information similar to our past directories, but does not yet contain the "informational" and Band Plans pages at this time. These sections will be created in MS Publisher as soon as a new version of the software can be obtained. During the development stage of this directory, updated copies will be handed out to WWARA members for the next few meetings until the entire project is compiled.

A discussion started about how to manage the data and make it available via the webpage, and what information will be made available to the public versus members.

Coordination Policies: John_AA7UJ said now that the first part of the change to the Policies have been implemented to streamline our coordination process, it is time to focus on changes to the Bylaws with respect to when and how often we hold general meetings. Now that the finalization of coordinations will take place via the Members Remailer, it will lessen the need to hold meetings, as well as free up time to have a more comprehensive agenda at meeting general membership meetings.

Response Letter to FCC: John-AA7UJ commented about the letter he sent to Riley Hollingsworth in response to the complaint from AA7SS. He has not heard back and does not expect to. John-AA7UJ asked Al-K7HW to comment about his involvement with Ruff-AA7SS. Al reported that he has been talking to Ruff and has offered to help him get a 2-meter repeater tuned on one of the SNP pairs that they can use for their group. John-AA7UJ thanked Al for keeping a dialog going with Ruff and providing assistance with the project.

NEW BUSINESS

General: John-A7UJ asked for input regarding what the WWARA should be doing with stale applications. Most agreed that our policies are clear and support what should take place during the application process as far as allowing a set amount of time for a construction period upon submitting the initial application. Steve-W7UDI asked what is done with Tech Data Sheets that are received without a cover letter. The Secretary stated that he is sending back applications that do not fit the norm and are not accompanied with a Cover Letter.

Carter Powell-W7IAG was thanked for making arrangements for the meeting room.

A motion passed to adjourn the meeting at 11:52 AM.

The next meeting will be held on October 7, 2004 at 7:00 PM.

Minutes prepared by Mark McClain-N6OBY, Secretary.