

SMCARA Meeting minutes for 8/23/2018 rev. 8/27/2018

The SMCARA meeting for August 2018 was called to order at 1930 hours by the Vice President, Steve Dagey KA3WAP, in the Technology Hall of the Patuxent River Naval Air Museum. The President and Secretary were absent on personal business.

A total of thirteen members signed in for the August amateur meeting providing a quorum with which to do business for SMCARA. Two guests were present as well.

The pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was given by the members.

The Vice President called for introductions around the room. Members gave their name and call sign. The sign in list is available from the Secretary.

Jeff Carlson, KB3QOL introduced himself and outlined his amateur radio experiences.

The Treasurer, Rene Rameriz W3BNY, accepted dues payments from members for the membership year from August 1, 2018 to July 31, 2019. The treasurer's report was given. SMCARA is solvent. The bank balance was given. Two deposits received, two disbursements were made for the new repeater components and annual website fees. The monthly statement is available from the Treasurer.

Upcoming elections in October were discussed. Any member in good standing may be nominated by another member or they may nominate themselves.

Tony Barrett, N5TB discussed progress with computer equipment updates for next Field Day operations, and entertained questions. General discussion ensued among the members about the suitability of using the museum facilities for the next Field Day location.

Pete Butt, WA3UMY who is also Assistant Director for the Naval Air Museum, reviewed the history of mutual support between the museum and SMCARA, and detailed immediate plans for renovating the Technology Hall to a new gallery which will include space for an active ham station.

Tom Clarke, W4OKV discussed progress on setting up and installation of the new repeater equipment. Presently it is operating in a testing mode at the NAS MARS shack with an antenna at the 25ft height. If functions are satisfactory he may move the repeater to the Hermansville site this coming Sunday. He invited members to try out the repeater on air.

Chuck Gantz, K3WJX, provided information on the Club's upcoming Tail Gate Fest at the Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department on October 6, 2018. A food truck will be

present with hotdogs and one other main entre. Setup is planned for Friday evening and volunteer assistance is requested.

The Vice President briefly reviewed upcoming elections and stated the intention to firm a slate of candidates by September 15th.

Gene Tally, N3NO explained his offer to give the former REACT communications trailer to the club. He had previously discussed this with the President, who favors the gift. Pete Butt, WA3UMY, speaking for the museum, offered free parking for the trailer behind the museum storage building. Replying to questions, Gene detailed MVA registration expense as \$27 per year and that road insurance was covered under the towing vehicle's insurance. General statements were made that the trailer would be available for members operations.

Bill Merritt, KB4QAA proposed a motion to delay a vote until the next meeting when the full board was present. No second was received and the motion failed.

A motion to accept the trailer gift was made, seconded and Passed; 8 Yeas, 1 Opposed, four remaining abstaining.

Bill Merritt, KB4QAA discussed the need for licensing and upgrade classes and his interest in teaching. The membership was canvassed for interest.

A desire for future planned meeting programs/presentations was discussed and received hearty general agreement. Several topics were suggested.

Brief mention was made of a local Cub Scout Camporee and possible support by volunteers for a radio station.

The new W1JD repeater at Mechanicsville on 220 Mhz was discussed.

No 50/50 raffle was held.

The next SMCARA monthly meeting for topics including elections will be held on October 25, 2018

Prepared by Acting Recording Secretary Bill Merritt, KB4QAA
Respectfully submitted Walter Rupp, W3GYT, 8/27/2018 SMCARA Secretary