



SEMARA

54 Donald Street
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BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

March 7, 2024

Meeting called to order at 7:12PM.

There were 17 members present at the club and 2 guests. The zoom connection wasn't working due to a technical issue

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The secretary report was read and posted on the bulletin board. A motion was made and seconded to accept as read and voted unanimously in favor.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Total income was \$2,347. Income from T-Bills was \$402.00; initiation fee \$40; and \$1906 from Blue Sky for taxes.
Expenses were \$634.00
Checking account balance is \$6,776
Savings account balance is \$6,830
Net worth T-Bills \$205,175.00
Net worth \$230,781.00 (Not including the \$12,000 Blue Sky deposit)

A motion was made and seconded to send to audit and voted unanimously in favor.

STANDING COMMITTEES

- **Buildings & Grounds**

The roof is leaking where the addition from the radio room roof attached to the main club building roof. Marcel notified the contractor that built the addition but had not heard back from him by meeting time.

- **Scholarship**

Nothing to report

- **Technical**

Due to the snow storm on February 14 the club sustained damage to three (3) antennas. The hex beam has a broken fiberglass support that caused the center post to bend out of vertical; the large beam on the tower has a broken connection for the driven element that caused it to tilt and the 40 dipole has one element that's bent. Alan was notified.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

- **ARES, RACES, SKYWARN**

The Eastern MA ARES drill on Saturday 2/3/24 had 110 stations participating and the drill went well.

There will be a RACES net on the first Monday of the month at 1930 on the 2 meter repeater.

- **Radio Events**

Nothing to report

- **Repeater**

Nothing to report

- **WEB**

Nothing to report

COMMUNICATIONS

The club received a letter addressed to the scholarship committee.

The water department still needs to get access to change the water meter.

Received a letter from Blue Sky regarding their proposal to purchase the area where the cell tower is located. They raised their offer to \$550,000. If accepted they will no longer be paying the \$42,840 per year lease fee. They will also not offer any financial assistance in legal or processing fees to consummate the agreement. The club attorney has reviewed the offer. It was noted that the current lease has approximately 17 years still left on it and the new agreement would make the current lease agreement void. The result for the club, based on current lease payments, would be a substantial loss of revenue to the club under the new agreement, which would impact operating conditions. A motion was made to accept the new agreement, it was seconded. The vote taken was zero in favor and 17 opposed. The motion to accept the new agreement failed so no changes will take place.

RATIFICATION of NEW MEMBERS

Mike Enos, WM1S and Linda Enos, W1ZYV submitted membership applications at the February meeting that were accepted and sent to the March meeting for full approval. A motion was made and seconded to table the ratification until the April meeting due to several members on review team not being available to review the applications. The vote was one in favor and 16 opposed. That motion failed. A motion was made and seconded to approve the applications. That vote was unanimous in favor of approving. Both applicants were members several years ago under the old annual dues system.

OLD BUSINESS

Nothing to report

NEW BUSINESS

Joe Barros reported that Mass Save submitted a quote for insulation upgrades to the club. The scope of work is to add 10 inches of blown in insulation in the attic, insulate the attic hatch, weather strip 2 doors and insulate 2 doors to the crawl spaces, install a 6 mill vapor barrier on the dirt floor in the crawl space, insulate the foundation walls with 2 inch foam board, and air seal and insulate the sills on the perimeter. Total project cost is \$13,299.57. Eversource will pay \$8,723.50 of that leaving a balance of \$4,576.07 the club is responsible for. A motion was made, seconded and approved unanimously to accept the proposal and spend the \$4,576.07.

Rich Netinho purchased and installed the Ham Clock software and a small Raspberry Pi computer to run it.

The club needs to purchase a new file cabinet since the existing ones are full. Approval was given at an earlier meeting but the costs have risen so a new vote is needed to purchase a 5 draw lateral file cabinet. A motion was made to spend up to \$1,200; it was seconded and voted unanimously in favor.

A motion was made and seconded to spend up to \$2,000 to purchase the new heavy duty Hex Beam antenna and any accessories needed from VHQ Hex Beam in New Hampshire that has a life time warranty rather than repair the existing one. The vote was unanimously in favor.

The club color copier/printer needed to have the color toner cartridges replaced. Joe Barros found a 3-pack on-line for \$138.11 and purchased them at a substantial savings over regular costs and submitted the slip for reimbursement. A motion was made, seconded and approved unanimously to reimburse for the expense.

A motion was made to increase the dollar amount any club committee can spend without needing membership approval from the current \$100 to \$200. The motion was seconded and voted unanimously in favor.

FOR THE GOOD of THE CLUB

Tony Souza wants to do an instruction class for the general class license to be held at the police station similar to the current one for the technician class license. He said he currently has about 40 people interested and is looking for volunteers to teach the different segments.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 8:45 PM was seconded and voted unanimously in favor.