



Southeastern Massachusetts Amateur Radio Association

54 Donald St.
Dartmouth, MA 02748
Tel: 508-997-7070

SEMARA February Business Meeting

February 1, 2007

Meeting called to order at 7:00PM.
Voting Members Present 31 with 1 Visitor

The meeting commenced with a salute to the flag, and was followed with a moment of silence in Memoriam of 2 members who died in the past month.

Robert Kish KA1YON
Richard Houghton WA1CXG

Next, the roll call was conducted which showed that 31 voting members were present.

The Secretary's report was accepted as posted on the website by a motion made by John, W1ZYV.

The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

The Board of Directors Meeting held on January 13, 2007 minutes were accepted as posted on the website by a motion introduced by Dave K1JGV and passed unanimously.

The Treasurer's report was read. It was explained by Mike, KB1NB, that motions to accept this report were not needed because the reports are subject to audit, as referred to in "Robert's Rules of Order". John-W1ZYV made a motion that the report be referred to audit and was passed unanimously.

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TECHNICAL COMMITTEE:

Tim-N1TI reported that not much was ongoing at the present with the repeater. He stated that the 2 sub-committee members, Dave- W1DJG, and Rick- W1RJC were waiting on a decision involving access to the repeater site, which would be addressed later in this meeting. He also reported that the IRLP and ECHO LINK systems could be made more secure using a pin code system, which is in the planning stages. He did emphasize that interference issues that we are experiencing should and will begin to be focused on in a more aggressive manner.

Another problem that seems to be ongoing is the persistence of some to be visiting undesirable sights on the Internet and then downloading some pornographic material. He explained that this activity had occurred as recently as the last Saturday, and that it occurred around 8:30 AM. He assured that pinpointing this person was only one more step away, and that self-policing would be the more desirable way to resolve the situation. If the practice continues, it will be acted upon aggressively.

BUILDING & GROUNDS:

Mike- N1ITQ reports that everything seems to be running smoothly in his responsibilities. The oil tank has been filled and an additive to retard moisture content within the tank was added, and will be the practice throughout the cold winter months with every other tank full.

NEW BUILDING COMMITTEE:

No one present to report

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COMMUNICATIONS:

Bob-K1KVV read a notification from the town informing of a Hearing to be held by the Planning Board on February 6, 2007, concerning an application someone submitted applying for a variance from the town to be able to build a dwelling on a lot located at 49 Donald St, which the town has classified wetlands. Members were told that they could attend, but the club would not involve itself in this matter.

Another letter about the same matter was received from the petitioner involved also informing of the above mentioned.

RATIFICATION OF NEW APPLICANTS:

There were two applications received this month and one that had been tabled from the previous meeting. They were:

| | |
|----------------------|---------|
| Joseph Hampson | KA1JFI |
| Christopher Washburn | W1EAV |
| Leslie Dole | NO CALL |

A motion introduced by Don-N1PMB to accept all three applicants in one vote passed unanimously.

Welcome to our new members!

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PRESIDENTS COMMENTS:

President Louie-W1CH spoke about the openness that his meetings would entail during his tenure. He said that he wanted all to notice that BOD meetings would be held in a very welcoming and open atmosphere, and that all minutes would be written in an unbiased manner, and absolutely no nefarious activity would be conducted.

ARES / SKYWARN:

Rob-KD1CY reported that the monthly RACES net would be held at the Acushnet EMA on Monday February 5, 2007. It is always on the 1st Monday of the month and is held on 147.135, which is the Taunton Repeater.

The Eastern ARES net will start at 8:00 PM on the same night.

A MARS drill (large) will be held on Saturday Feb 10th, 9:00 AM till 1:00 PM. Saturday, Feb 24th our section communication path test will be held between repeaters and simplex. HF communications will also be tested.

He then gave a summary of the ARRL division cabinet meeting (mentioned in the January 2007 Minutes) that was held in Framingham, MA.

OLD BUSINESS:

A motion made by Tim- N1TI to withdraw the tabled motion concerning the replacement of the Wm. M Miller sign, that had been tabled at the last business meeting passed unanimously.

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NEW BUSINESS:

Bob-WX1DOG questioned the possible vandalism that could occur to the outside oil tank, taking into consideration the vandalism, (stolen Wm. M Miller Way Sign) which had taken place in the last couple of weeks. He also questioned whether it was advisable to have the oil tank outside and have the risk of liability, should the tank rupture, of contaminating of the soil, should someone report it to the authorities. He suggested that it might be a prudent decision to move the tank to a safe area, such as the boiler closet. The membership felt that because of the fact that many oil tanks are stored outdoors, with minimal problems, the tank should be left as is.

Dave- K1JGV spoke about the seemingly defunct New Building Committee. He stated that he had tried to contact the previous chairman to no avail. He said that several email notes that he had sent him had bounced back through the Internet postal system. He further reported trying to place phone calls several times, but the telephone was reported as discontinued, and no one had had any contact with him since the night of the election. He said that he would like to take over the position of chairman of the committee, and as a result of querying the membership to see if anyone objected. The president then named him as chairman of the "New Building Committee". Dave said he would get working on it right away in an exploratory manner taking "baby steps". He will poll interested members and decide on a time for the first meeting.

Don-N1PMB introduced a motion on the floor that would replace the missing Wm. M. Miller Way sign. John-W1ZYV spoke in favor of the sign during the discussion period of the motion, but stated that he thought that the new sign should incorporate a "Private Way" sign below the aforementioned sign, because he has driven onto our property to find someone in the yard, because they didn't realize that the site was private property. Don agreed with the modification and the motion passed unanimously.

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NEW BUSINESS *(continued)*:

John-WA1ESO brought to the floor the fact, since he had been acting as an interim QSL manager for the club, in the absence of a chairman, that there were no more QSL cards, and that he would like to explore some local printers for quotes on printing them. Mike-N1ITQ noted that he did some printing at his job site, and that he would find out the cost of printing a 4-color card and report back with a price at the next meeting. However, Dan-W2DAN related that he had explored prices on QSL cards before, and that the best prices were available at the QSL printers on the Internet. John said that he would check around and be able to report back at the next meeting. Mike said that they might be right about the prices, and that he would not pursue the info from his employer. John was asked if he would consider the chairmanship of this committee, he said he would, and the President appointed him the new "QSL Manager for SEMARA.

Tim-N1TI suggested that someone contact Ed-WA1ZCB about getting SEMARA involved with APRS. Maybe a committee could be formed to explore getting involved in this area.

With this in mind, Tim motioned that the old duplexers that were put up for sale, and had been tentatively sold, and ended with the deal falling through, and the motion that had been approved at an earlier meeting to sell them, be rescinded, and that we keep these duplexers in storage until the membership decides on a path to follow regarding the APRS, and that if we decided to join, the duplexers could be retuned and be used for that system.

The motion passed unanimously.

Mike- KB1NB presented a motion for approval by the membership, that he has a petty cash account of \$50 for purchasing small incidental items needed to run his office.

Motion passed unanimously.

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NEW BUSINESS (continued):

Recommendation of the board of Directors Meeting January 13, 2007 were read and introduced for approval by the membership. See BOD Meeting minutes of January 13, 2007 for explanations.

1. **Mandatory Book Audit:** The matter was discussed and no action was taken at this time.
2. **Appointing 3 member nominating committee:** Passed unanimously
3. **Procedure to handle resignations:** discussed with no action taken to be able to investigate if these recommended procedures will conflict with language now in place in our constitution.
4. **Building Inspection:** The membership voted to have the building, (main hall only), inspected by a MA licensed inspection company. It passed 29-2
5. **Club Cleaning Arrangements:** The BOD brought to the floor a plan to have clubhouse cleaned at least twice a month. It was discussed and a motion by John-W1ZYV to get estimates, and award to lowest bidder, with members having first acceptance rights. The motion passed unanimously.
6. **Shingling North Side of Building:** A proposal to have the north side of the building shingled by the time hard winter sets in. It was brought to light, that the north side had been waterproofed and buttoned up for winter by Bill-K1IBR and others, and that no attention was needed until spring. No action was taken.

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NEW BUSINESS (continued):

7. **Keeper of the Keys:** John-W1ZYV made a motion that the club accept the recommendation of the BOD pertaining to the “Keeper of the Keys” as posted in the BOD meeting minutes for January 13, 2007 . It was accepted unanimously.
8. **Change Repeater Site door Lock:** A motion was made by Rob-KD1CY to accept the recommendation of the BOD, pertaining to the “Change Repeater Site Door Lock”as posted in the BOD meeting minutes of January 13, 2007. The motion passed unanimously.
9. **Sign-in Sheet:** Rob-KD1CY made a motion to accept the recommendation of the BOD pertaining to “Sign-In Sheets” as posted in BOD Meeting minutes of January 13, 2007. The motion passed unanimously
10. **Food Subsidization:** Carl-K1KID made a motion to accept the recommendation by the BOD pertaining to “Food Subsidization” as posted in the BOD meeting minutes of January 13, 2007. The motion passed unanimously.
11. **New Member Orientation:** The matters were discussed at some length, and most agree that an “orientation” of some type would be doable. Some questioned the more formal recommendation of the board. It was noted that a senior member who might be witnessing a first time user, could be attentive to the person, and help him along with any questions he might have. Most agreed that this is normal procedure anyway. No action was taken on the matter.
12. **Sale of old Duplexers:** No discussion was taken because a motion made earlier made this recommendation mute.

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Mike –N1ITQ questioned if anyone knew what type of repair was needed to the cold air return duct system. After some discussion he said that he would look into it, determine what was needed for the junction and try to purchase and install it. Bob- WX1DOG said that he would help him in locating the needed part.

Tim-N1TI announced to the membership, that in lieu of a “Tech Talk” this month, a “Fox Hunt” was scheduled for January 15th. It will also help to sharpen skills needed to begin to aggressively pursue man-made interference.

Mike- N1ITQ asked for an ovation for Bob-K1KVV for all the effort that he had made to ensure that Kids Day was successful. It was a fun day for all that participated, and hopefully awakened some of the kids to the world of Amateur Radio.

Dave-K1JGV presented a motion to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously without any discussion.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:55 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Armand Augustine W1BUG, Secretary

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