



Southeastern Massachusetts Amateur Radio Association

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

November Business Meeting Minutes

November 1, 2007

Call To Order:

Louis D. Mester, W1CH was absent. Vice-President *Robert B. Kelley, K1KVV* called the meeting to order at 7:07 PM.

Roll Call:

Members Present – 29
Guests Present – 0

Secretaries Report:

(*Richard J. Cabral, W1RJC*): It was noted that the minutes appearing in ZeroBeat was September's and not October's. *Robert B. Kelley, K1KVV* mentioned that he will correct this.

Treasurers Report:

(*Michael J. McDonald, Jr., KB1NB*): As of October 31, 2007 our balance totals \$61,682. Property taxes were paid totaling \$734 and a donation of \$100 was made to the club from Mark Perkins. To date, \$48,904.44 is due for the oil spill cleanup. This does not include the \$10,000 that the insurance will cover. A certified letter was sent to *Alan M. Costello, KB1EAG* of NETCOM a few months back indicating that the general condition of the site is unsatisfactory and addressed the late payment issue. Al replied to the club addressing all of the issues in question. A check from NETCOM was also received covering all delinquent balances including the payment for the November. Al also mentioned that Verizon Wireless would be soon going on the tower. Once this is completed, he will look into having the fence around the tower site reconstructed. A lengthy non-disturbance agreement was received from Verizon. *Henry R. Banchett, Jr., W1GYL* moved to refer the agreement to a lawyer for review before signing. The motion passed unanimously. *Timothy R. Smith, N1TI* now has key FOBs if anyone needs them. Please remember to turn in the old cards. A motion was

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made by *John G. Carriero, W1ZYV* to refer the Treasurer's Report to audit. The motion passed unanimously.

Standing Committee Reports:

Technical –

(David J. Goldstein, W1DJG): Outside cameras have been put in. Currently both cams are being relayed from Tim's home Internet connection. It was noted to please not move the cameras. They are adjusted for optimum performance. An APRS telemetry unit has been installed inside the club so that we can now check club temperature via the Internet. The battery install is complete and a UPS units is now functional in the club. It was noted that the microphone PTT on the repeater remote radio is worn out and you must hold it very tightly.

Timothy R. Smith, N1TI reports that a trial APRS system on 144.390 has been installed at the repeater site. It has been overwhelmingly received by the APRS community. Tim will continue to make investments on the system. 147.000's old duplexers will be retuned to reject 147.000 and accept 144.390 to allow the APRS system to be desense free. It was also noted that the APRS system runs on the tri-band 2m/222/440 antenna that also acts as the repeater backup antenna. If there was to be a problem with the repeater antenna, the APRS system would go down and the repeater would switch onto that antenna.

Richard J. Cabral, W1RJC reported that new voiceovers by Greg Jenson of WBZ will be acquired soon through Dave. Once we have them, voice IDs, upcoming events and top of hour announcements will be added to repeater once again. Also soon, the single "boop" courtesy tone will let you know that the IRLP & EchoLink node is idle, and our traditional 3-tone musical "stardust" courtesy tone will let you know that the node is connected. We will be installing a 2nd computer at the repeater site to remotely control and upload voice messages to the repeater, as well as stream the repeater audio live eventually. Lastly, we have a long term goal to install a 16 channel Motorola 440 remote base radio on the repeater so that we may link to MMRA for the monthly ARES net and to other systems for the enjoyment of SEMARA members.

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Buildings & Grounds –

(*Michael R. Miller, N1ITQ*): The dead bolt on the repeater site door was revisited. It was also noted that we have a standing motion to put a dead bolt on the door. A round of applause was given for *James R. Gilbert (no call)* for doing a great job at keeping the club clean.

Scholarship –

(Lawrence R. Houbre, Jr., AA1FS [absent]) No report.

Standing Committee Reports:

Activities –

(*Scott E. Szala, W1EV*): Scott expressed an interest in holding a Clambake on December 8th. It will be \$20 per ticket and the entire amount will go to the person who puts on the event. We will need to sell at least 50 tickets to cover the costs. It will help the club as well by burning the old wood remains of the hut.

ARES & SKYWARN –

(*Robert D. Macedo, KD1CY [absent]*): *Richard J. Cabral, W1RJC* reports that the Eastern Massachusetts ARES net is held on the first Monday of each month. The next net will be on Monday, November 5, 2007 on the MMRA repeater network; locally on the 145.490 Fairhaven repeater. December 1 will be SKYWARN recognition day.

Renovation –

(*David G. Dean, K1JGV*): The entrance to the building will be reversed so that it opens outward tomorrow as long as it does not rain. The transfer box is next to be installed. A report from Dave has been posted on the bulletin board. The FOB key card system should be left in tact will not be affected.

QSL Manager –

(*John C. Nery, WA1ESO [absent]*) No report.

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Repeater –

(*Richard J. Cabral, W1RJC*): All details were covered under the Technical Committee report.

Web Site –

(*Timothy R. Smith, N1TI*): If anyone has any old ZeroBeats to please pass them along. He is working on putting up a full archive of all past ZeroBeat issues.

Communications –

(*Michael J. McDonald, Jr., KB1NB*) reports that a Chicken BBQ is planned for Sunday, October 27th. W1EV will be planning the event as he has in the past. Tickets will be on sale for \$8 each.

Radio Events –

(*Robert B. Kelley, K1KVV*): The membership was polled for what they are interested in so that we can narrow in on the interests of the membership.

Ratification of New Members:

Two applications for membership; *Sharon Goldstein (no call)* and *Bonnie Breault (recently passed Technician exam)*. *James R. Gilbert (no call)* moved to accept them as members. The motion passed unanimously.

President's Comments:

None

Old Business:

None



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New Business:

Armand Augustine, W1BUG moved to read the correct minutes of the October meeting next month and to vote on its acceptance then. The motion passed unanimously.

Henry Brown, K1WCC reports that the 9th Annual FARA FEST is on November 10, 2007 from 9am to 12pm at the Upper Cape Regional Vocational Technical High School on Sandwich Road in Bourne, MA. Talk-in on the 146.655.

Board Of Directors Meeting Minutes:

Robert B. Kelley, K1KVV read the meeting minutes (please see document "SEMARA October Board of Directors Meeting Minutes")

For The Good Of The Club:

John G. Carriero, W1ZYV moved to institute an annual maintenance fee on for membership with SEMARA. Bob Kelly recommended holding off on the motion for now until an annual figure is determined. An open discussion was had amongst the membership regarding maintenance fees and reinstating dues. A fair amount of members present was in favor of an assessment fee; however no motions were made at this time.

2008 Nominations:

The Nominations Committee nominated the following individuals for the 2008 election to be held at the December business meeting –

President – Louis C. Mester, *W1CH*

Vice President – *Robert B. Kelley, K1KVV*

Secretary – *(open)*

Treasurer – *Michael J. McDonald, KB1NB*

Board of Directors (3) – *Edmond F. Duclos, WA1ZCB, John G. Carriero, W1ZYV, David G. Dean, K1JGV*

Trustee – *Chris J. Smith, K1CJS.*

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Adjournment:

Christopher W. Washburn, W1EAV moved to adjourn passed unanimously at 8:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard J. Cabral, W1RJC
SEMARA Secretary