

Wisconsin Association of Repeaters, Inc - Membership Meeting

Date: August 25, 2018
Location: Jamf, 215 Riverfront Ter, Eau Claire, WI 54703
Attendance: Dean Hoover, KB7QDI; Rick Corgiat, W9RIX; Josh Roskos, KC9WWH; Chris Keezer, KC9NVV; Corey Lardinois, KB9BNA; Ron Larson, W9RLL; Ron Anderson, W9RMA; Wayne Johnson, K9WKJ; Tony Campion, KC9SZW; Tim Rose, WB9PMF; Robert Rose, N9VOY; Kenny Dicks, AC0GV; Paul Brooten, KB9TYC; Bill Kraft, K9NY; Jeff Cole, N9PPE; Char Kraft, KC9EVZ; Steve Hart, KA9OMC

Call to Order: 1006 CST

Notes

- Last Membership Meeting was March 17th 2018 at Ham Radio Outlet in Milwaukee, WI.
- The Board of Directors have held regular meetings since then
 - April 11th & 24th
 - May 14th and 23rd
 - June 20th
 - July 18th
 - August 22nd
- Updates have been posted to the website as items of interest have been developed.

Secretary's Report

- Our current website has been around since the early stages of WAR.
- This site takes a long time to update and doesn't support the new initiatives we are looking to accomplish.
- As of today, we've launched a new website!
- This site uses the same address as previously and can be viewed at <https://wi-repeaters.org>.
- All information from the old site has been transferred over.
- Demo'd location of location of common items on the website, where they are now and how to find everything.
- New site is also mobile friendly!

Treasurer's Report

- Checking Account Balance: \$4,158.09
- PayPal Account Balance: \$216.43 (membership fee's submitted online)
- 95% of the membership has paid through PayPal this year on the site versus sending it in via USPS.
- On PayPal we are getting a 2.9% fee which comes out to about a \$0.52 fee
- This makes it much more convenient and reduces cost to members (printing, postage, etc)

Coordination Secretary's Report

- So far this year...
 - 29 new coordinations
 - 9 modifications to existing coordinations
 - 28 NOPC requests from adjacent states
- Currently...
 - 9 open coordinations in various states
 - 4 open coordinations that are required to be re-worked/reissued
- Annual Updates
 - Little behind, focused on getting coordination work
 - Planning by EoY to have 1st notices sent out
 - These are typically mailed to the contact listed on the coordination
 - Do we continue to mail them or do them electronically?
 - Mailing are labor intensive
 - Cost approximately \$200 per mailing
 - Electronically could make it easier for both the membership and Coordination Committee

Vice-President's Report

- Focus is on pushing the group and be devils advocate
- Thanks the entire board and committee members for all everyone has done to turn this group around
 - New Website
 - Coordinations are caught up
 - Some coordinations have taken way to long in the past
- We have a lot more work coming up to help streamline processes and make things easier for everyone
- Thank you everyone for attending

President's Report

- Continued Volunteerism
 - Coordination Secretary Committee
 - About a month and a half ago did a training session for interested members
 - Planning another in the next six months
 - Part of the issue on why we had issues in the past is because there was one individual doing it all
 - Now we are having a committee work on coordinations to ensure things continue to be processed efficiently
 - Band Plan Committee
 - Tony has taken the lead on this
 - At last board meeting, Tony submitted some recommendations for changes to Band Plan
 - Long Term Projects
 - If you have something you believe can benefit the community and/or organization, reach out to the board
- Education
 - We are verifying coordination requests
 - Working with folks wanting to coordinate early on to help plan out frequencies and make recommendations
 - Online trainings on forms, coordination process, etc
- Dave Karr
 - Officially he is still the Frequency Coordinator
 - He has told us he is planning to resign, but has not officially done so yet
 - Corey has taken the lead and done all the work over the last 3-4 months
 - We want to give Dave the opportunity to resign
 - He has done a tremendous amount of work for this group
 - He deserves the credit
 - He stepped up to do this role when nobody else would
 - The board will review his status at the September board meeting
- Expense Reimbursement
 - Since moving off donations based organization to a dues based organization
 - We need to be sure our minus (debts) don't exceed the plus (income)
 - In the past, when traveling for board meetings, mileage and hotels rooms was all reimbursed
 - This isn't really sustainable at the current dues level
 - Looking for membership input on how you'd like to see it handled
 - For this meeting we allowed actual gas cost for travel; hotel was not covered
 - Previous annual update forms had a \$25 membership fee listed at the bottom of the form
 - In the past we haven't forced people to pay this fee, just asked for it to help cover costs; honor/donation based
 - Question was asked if we are a 501(c)3 and we are not, but it has been discussed in the past
 - You don't have to pay to have a coordinated repeater, just if you'd like voting rights in the organization
 - We plan to review the current \$10 membership fee at the next bi-annual membership meeting
 - 5 of the board members are from the greater Milwaukee area, with the other 2 from North Western WI
 - Before next annual updates go out, we will ensure the forms are updated and accurate
 - Also mentioned that the entire board are volunteers and don't necessarily need to have everything reimbursed
 - Major annual expenses are about \$240 for CTK server and approx. \$200 per mailing
 - You do not need to own a repeater to be a paid, voting member
 - Discussed adding digital forms on the website to ease costs and processes
 - Discussed holding bi-annual membership meetings online

Old Business

None

New Business

- 6.25kHz Spacing on UHF
 - Typically have a 25kHz channel for analog
 - With new digital/narrowband channels, we are splitting the analog channel with a 6.25kHz off center shift
 - Allows two channels in the previous single wide-band channel
 - It may not be needed today, but planning for the future
 - We need to ensure we use the spectrum efficiently by doing these kind of optimizations
 - Concern in the past has been if the hardware (radios) support 6.25 spacing
 - But these are mostly digital systems that require new radios to support this
- If anyone has anything else that comes up and they'd like to discuss it, all our emails are on the website at the bottom

Adjournment: 1055 CST

Respectfully Submitted,
Joshua Roskos, KC9WWH
WAR Secretary

