

Saratoga Amateur Radio Association

146.655 Mhz, -, 114.8 Hz
443.150 Mhz, +, 100 Hz

assisting the City of Saratoga
affiliated with the American Radio Relay League
part of the Amateur Radio Emergency Service
and the Silicon Valley Emergency Communication System



Minutes of Board Meeting on February 19, 2014

These Minutes are respectfully submitted by Ray Froess, W6ZF, acting Secretary

Attendees:

- David Ritchie (W6DR) President
- John Glass (NU6P) Vice-President
- Ray Froess (W6ZF) Secretary
- Don Steinbach (AE6PM) Treasurer
- Roger Smith (KC6LEW) Director
- Walter Spector (W6WS) Director

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 pm by David Ritchie, President.

Old Business: (None)

New Business:

1. Replacement Secretary Needed by April 1: Ray is acting as interim secretary. Several names were suggested as secretary. Walter will contact them.
2. Status of Meeting Programs for 2014 – W6DR: Forming a program committee was proposed. We'd like programs planned at least until Fields Day in June. John will review his notes and propose topic.
3. Additional 2014 Activities Proposals:
 - a. Portola Valley Tank Museum – Walter will see if it can be arranged.
 - b. Other ideas? – John will see if we can visit the County Communications Center.
4. Plans for Field Day 2014 – W6DR and W6WS: David proposed we conduct it as in previous years. We need a minimum of 6 volunteers for setup and takedown.
5. Treasurer's Report – AE6PM: Don reported on the finances. We have 18 paid members.
6. Status of Repeater – NU6P: John reported that both the 2 meter and 70 cm repeaters were working fine with EchoLink and IRLP. Don is working on a circuit for switching the controller between battery and line operation.
7. Need rotation schedule for the monthly EOC Check-in: It is our understanding that Chuck Erickson will conduct the monthly tests. There are about 5 members trained to participate as backups and it was proposed that we train more.

8. Status of Emergency Response Plan for Saratoga – AE6PM: Don, Morris, and Madelyn are revising the plan.
9. Status of Website – Chuck Erickson: Chuck is now maintaining our K6SA.net site. We'd like to make sure visitors can request to join our Yahoo Group. We discussed having an online form with PayPal to join our club.
10. Status of Licensing Class/Examination Program: Don and Yin will run the Technician License class on May 24. We want to make sure information is on our website too.
11. Discussion about "Improving the SARA Membership Experience": It was agreed that we need meeting topics scheduled several months in advance. The issue is finding topics of general interest.
12. Membership Recruitment: There are about 300 licensed hams in Saratoga. John proposed that we send a flyer to new ham licensees. ARRL provides a list.
13. Community Participation Initiatives: Little was discussed.
14. QSL Cards: David will respond to the few that the club receives.
15. Field Trip: We discussed visits to TV/Radio stations and local manufacturing but most felt these would not be very interesting.
16. Fire Station HF Antenna: This project has been dormant. Yin and Rob worked on it and we believe we have received permission for our proposal. Walter offered to donate his Cushcraft R7 antenna. John will talk with Yin to see if we can proceed with installation.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.