

Columbus Amateur Radio Club
Meeting Minutes
April 9, 2015

2015 officers are as follows:

President, Lew - KC9NKB
Vice-President, Matt - KC9BWO
Secretary, Jim - WA9TGO
Treasurer, Lois - KA9IOS
Director, Gary - KD9SB
Director, Kim - KC9PLT

Minutes: March minutes were sent to the CARC79 list by Jim (WA9TGO). Lew (KC9NKB) asked if there were any corrections: The check (advance) for \$150 for Hamfest food purchases was given to Dave (KF9IH), not Matt. The minutes were approved as corrected.
Motion(KC9BWO), Second(KF9IH)

Treasurer's Report: Lois (KA9IOS)) presented the report; It was approved.
Motion(WA9TGO), Second(KC9BWO)

Matt (KC9BWO) gave the Hamfest report and there was considerable discussion about possible changes. Since the Hamfest ended earlier this year, not as much lunch food was sold, but we ran out of biscuits and gravy early. Next year, more gravy and fewer hotdogs. Pie and even cookies didn't sell too well either! Matt thanked everyone who helped out. Jim (WA9TGO) won the HT main door prize. Thank you! We had about 385 attendees and made about \$1200. But: New management at the fairgrounds are changing the way they rent out the buildings.

We were paying \$475 for Saturday and Friday night setup plus a \$50 refundable reservation deposit and a \$100 security deposit which was returned as long as we cleaned up and there was no damage to the building. For next year, they want a \$350 reservation deposit, \$400 for Saturday plus \$400 for Friday night setup, and a \$650 security deposit, (as well as a copy of our liability insurance contract). The deposits will probably be refunded after the Hamfest, but we will still end up paying \$325 more than in the past because of the Friday night 3 hour setup. Several alternate ideas were discussed: Trying to rent for 24 hours 2PM Friday to 2PM Saturday. Appealing to the Fairgrounds Board that we are a nonprofit organization. Trying to find another suitable location. Etc. But, the Fairgrounds is a good, suitable, well known location with a kitchen, rest rooms, and chairs and tables that we don't have to rent and haul back and forth. Table rental alone would probably cost at least \$600 plus pickup and delivery – or we would have to haul them back and forth.

We also usually pay \$50 to use the Ag building for license testing, but we got bumped out of there, and another group tried to bump us out of the main building for their car show – but our reservation prevailed. Since a few tables hadn't been sold, Matt made room for the testing session at the north end of the building. That seemed to work out ok. It was finally decided that Matt should go ahead and reserve the regular building for next year, and we could be looking for a possible alternative for 2017. Josh (KC9YUA) made a motion which was discussed and modified: Lois should provide Matt a check for \$350 so he could rent the building for next year (around April 2 or 9, but not Easter weekend) and make the deposit to secure it. Jim (WA9TGO) seconded. Motion carried.

Trustee Reports:

2 Meter Repeater: Marion (WD9HTN) went out to the repeater with Baltus who lowered the voltage threshold to cure the emergency power beep. They saved the program to Marion's laptop if we need it again. Marion installed a new Polyphasor and sent the old one back to be tested. If it is still good, we can use it as a spare.

440 Repeater: Joe (KA9OPL) reported he and Josh (KC9YUA), Ken (KX9U), and Marion, were going out to the repeater on Saturday to change the PL tone to 103.5 Hz also, per IRC's request. Joe will also change the PL control tone sequences so they will be the same as the 2M repeater. They are also going to install a backup battery for emergency power.

Old Business: None.

New Business: A few months ago, we voted to send a check for \$25 to their charity of choice when a member's close relative dies. (W9SML) Steve's father and (N9CJT) Noel's mother died and Lois wanted clarification before she sent the checks. This brought to attention the fact we don't have the book of old minutes at the meeting. Hopefully Kim (KC9PLT) or Ken (KX9U) has it. ??? Lois will investigate.

Joe (KA9OPL) put last year's minutes up on the new website: CARCnet.net

Lew relayed that Jim (N9KVB) reported the new HF dipole antenna is up at the EOC and that they used up all their funds in doing so. Jim is planning to have a table at Cummins CTC Safety Fair on National Safety Day, June 2, to explain how RACES helps in times of emergency and try to raise some money. He asked for assistance. Jim (WA9TGO) works at CTC and plans to assist. Also, the EchoLink on the 440 repeater is still down.

Joe asked if there were any Field day plans. If nothing else, he will probably set up in the gazebo at his place at Stonecrest on battery or commercial power. At the time of the Hamfest, SCICSG apparently hadn't decided what they were going to do.

Meeting adjourned

Submitted by: Jim (WA9TGO), Secretary