

SMCARA Meeting minutes for 10/25/2018

The SMCARA meeting for October 25, 2018 was called to order at 1931 hours by the president, June Entzi KC3GYL, in the Technology Hall of the Patuxent River Naval Air Museum.

Nineteen members and guests signed in for this month's meeting.

Thirteen members including four officers were present providing a quorum with which to conduct business for SMCARA.

The pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag (Led by KC3GYL) was given by the members.

The president called for introductions around the room. Members gave their name and call sign. The sign in list is available from the Secretary.

The 50/50 raffle tickets were sold by Mike Souden, KB3ZWM.

As the first order of business, the President, June Entzi KC3GYL, opened the discussion on the election of SMCARA Officers for the next term from 2019 to 2020. The constitution as amended in April 2018 has extended the term of office to two years. There was only one member nominated for the Vice President and Secretary, two for Treasurer and no nomination for President. The present Treasurer, Rene' Rameriz withdrew his name from the ballot leaving one name for three of the four offices. June called for a vote for the remaining nominees by acclamation. The membership voted unanimously to accept. The office of the President will be filled by the elected Vice President until someone steps forward to fill that office. The results of the voting are, President/Vice President, Rob Hoyt N2OMC, Secretary, Jayne McNutt W4VJU, and Treasurer, Walt Rupp W3GYT.

The Treasurer, Rene Rameriz W3BNY, accepted dues payments from members for the year from August 1, 2018 to July 31, 2019. Members will be considered delinquent if their dues are not paid immediately.

The treasurer's report was given. SMCARA is solvent with several checks received and two transactions. The bank balance was given. Treasurer, Rene' Ramrez W3BNY, or Secretary, Walt Rupp W3GYT will provide financial details to members as required. We have 51 paid up members as of October 15, 2018.

The TailGate Fest coordinator, Chuck Gantz K3WJX, presented his report. Chuck thanked all who supported the field day exercises for their efforts. The TailGate Feast netted SMCARA Treasury \$278.82. Some lessons learned were discussed including setting up an exam session for interested amateurs visiting the event, including a talk-in station, food vendors and advertising of the event.

An option mentioned by the Vice President Steve Dagay KA3WAP was to conduct future Field day operations from the Museum instead in the field at the Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department. The museum location would save on the cost of the large tent and provide more opportunity for the public to observe amateur radio in action.

Tom Clarke W4OKW provided more information on the K3HKI repeater modernization. Some users of the K3HKI 04/64 repeater had complained of poor sounding audio. Upon checking the repeater transmitter output with a communications analyzer, Tom found that the transmitter frequency was off about 1 KHz. He decided to send the new transmitter back to the vendor for retuning. In the interim while the new transmitter was at the vendor, Tom would put the stand –by repeater back on the air.

The date for the annual Christmas dinner was set for 1900 Thursday December 13, 2018 at the Golden Corral. This SMCARA gathering will be the last meeting of 2018 before we begin the New Year with our fourth Thursday of the month meeting on January 24 2019. The last “Breakfast with Hams” for the year will be 0800 November 10, 2018 at the Cracker Barrel.

Rob Hoyt reminded the SMCARA Club members that a booth would be set up at the St. Mary’s County Fair Grounds for the SMCPS STEM exposition and that additional members would be welcome to staff this SMCARA activity.

The 50/50 raffle was won by a visitor, Beth Mead.

The meeting was adjourned by the outgoing President, June Entzi at 2105 hrs.

Respectfully submitted, Walter Rupp, W3GYT, SMCARA Secretary.