



W5AC

Texas A&M University Amateur Radio Club



Thursday, 14 February 2019

Minutes from the February 2019 General Business Meeting

President/KG5SDD called the meeting to order at 1933 USCST (UTC-6). Treasurer/KG5YRW, Adviser/N5TLT, QSL Manager/W5MHN, Webmaster/AG5JH, and Secretary/KE0MXN were also present. Four voting members were present by proxy, nine voting members were physically present, and five visitors were present.

Officer Reports

- **President's Report**
 - **T-Shirts:** KG5SDD reported that little has changed since the last meeting. The club is looking into the T-Shirt design in preparation for Belton Hamfest.
 - **Pest Control:** KG5SDD noted that shack has recently been sprayed to kill the fire ants and roaches.
 - **Landscaping:** KG5SDD noted that the grass had been cut outside the shack. KZ3G asked whether the club could pave the area, and N5TLT replied that the club could add rocks to stymie the loss of dirt, but could not alter the area with construction without funding and a project via SSC/TAMU.
- **Vice President's Report**
 - In WG1GEM's absence, KE0MXN read the Vice President's Report.
 - **Improvements:** KE0MXN reported that club needs to find 30m of heliax in the shack to address the repeater's intermodulation issue. KE0MXN also remarked that the club could use some aircraft tiedown rope to ensure control of the locking pins. N5TLT noted that he had paracord for this purpose.
- **Treasurer's Report**
 - **Account Balances:** KG5YRW delivered a report on the state of the club's finances.
- **Secretary's Report**
 - **January Meeting Minutes:** KE0MXN read the January meeting minutes.
- **QSL Manager's Report**
 - **DXCC:** W5MHN reported that the DXCC list has not changed since the January meeting.
 - **QSL Cards:** W5MHN recounted that one QSL card was received.
- **Historian's Report**
 - In W5QZ's absence, KE0MXN read the Historian's Report.
 - **Solar Cycles:** W5QZ reported that the world is currently in the "trough" of the 11-year-long sunspot cycle, making DX difficult due to poor HF conditions. This is because the sun spots are temporarily not in the areas at the strength necessary to create the flux and ionization necessary for DX.

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- **Chasing DX:** W5QZ reported that despite poor band conditions, the bands will sometimes still open and that turning on the radio to hone DX skills is vital for when the conditions improve in a few years. He also reported that early hams experimented and innovated to make the amateur radio band allocations, which the governments of the world saw as useless, into what they are today. KZ3G explained that new licensees were lucky in that they know what bad conditions are and will see much better soon.

Motions and Votes

- **Treasurer's Report:** KG5SDD motioned to accept the treasurer's report, KG5YRW et al. seconded the motion. The motion passed without opposition. The meeting of the quorum requirement of eight members was certified by KE0MXN.
- **January Meeting Minutes:** KG5YRW motioned to accept the January Meeting Minutes as read. Multiple members seconded the motion. The motion passed without opposition. The meeting of the quorum requirement of eight members was certified by KE0MXN.
- **Constitutional Amendment 2018-2019-3:** N5TLT remarked that the club would need a quorum to pass the amendment, and that the minutes should note that in the past three months, the current club administration had held the most votes on amendments to the club constitution in the club's history. KZ3G motioned to accept the amendment. Multiple members seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote with thirteen votes in favor and no votes against. The meeting of the quorum requirement of eight members was certified by KE0MXN.
- **Constitutional Amendment 2018-2019-4:** N5TLT remarked that the reason for the proxy vote limitations was to prevent a similar incident to one which happened several years ago. A motion to postpone the amendment for vote until the March 2019 meeting was proposed, seconded, and passed unopposed.

Club Business

- **Old Business**
 - **CQ Muster:** KE0MXN et al. reported that on 21 April 2019, the club will hold CQ Muster net at 1900, with the VHF net being move to 2100 on the same day. The executive committee is still looking for volunteers to run this event. The CQ Muster will be held from 19-22 April 2019. This current basic schedule plan was proposed: 0900-1700L on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, with various modes on HF during this time. At 1800L on Sunday, have the HF net (conditions permitting), and then continue at-will until campus Muster on Monday.
 - **Work Meeting:** KG5SDD noted that W5AC will hold a club work meeting on 23 January 2019 from 1000L to 1400L. Refreshments will be provided. W5MHN asked if the club was looking at Surplus for additional shelving, and KG5SDD answered that this was the case.
 - **Foxhunt:** KE0MXN noted that the W5BCS club was also interested in a foxhunt. N5TLT answered that W5AC and W5BCS used to collaborate on foxhunts, where a transmitter would be hidden each month and whoever found it would hide it the next month. KZ3G remarked that the club should look into the mobile foxhunting net and try to get in touch with the tournament hosts.

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- **ARRL School Club Roundup:** KE0MXN noted that the club was competing in the School Club Roundup.
- **New Business**
 - **Big Event:** KE0MXN asked if anyone would be interested in volunteering for Big Event, and KG5SDD remarked that notice would go out to the ListServ.
 - **Openings:** KG5SDD noted that the Executive Committee is looking for a Director of Public Relations and Director of Traffic Handling. The EC is also looking for anyone who would like to run a net or two. Interested parties should email clubofficers@w5ac.tamu.edu.
 - **Ham Club Online:** KE0MXN noted that the club would move to the Ham Club Online service for member management on 1 March 2019. N5TLT asked whether the service was free, and KE0MXN answered that it was.
 - **Logging:** KE0MXN and W5MHN noted that the club ought to decide to either move to an all-paper log or an all-digital log. N5TLT and W5MHN remarked that having a paper copy would be nice, although moving to a digital log would allow for better access and would overcome handwriting problems. They also remarked that the club should print a copy of the digital log when needed for a backup copy, and that the constitution allows for both the digital and paper log.

Good of the Order

- **W5BCS Meeting:** The W5BCS meeting will be held on 16 January 2019 at 0930L at Fire Station Six in College Station.
- **W5AC March Meeting:** Because of Spring Break, the W5AC March business meeting will occur on 07 March 2019 at 1930L.
- **NAQP/NACC RTTY:** W5AC will participate in the North American QSO Party / North American Collegiate Championship RTTY event on 23-24 February 2019.
- **School Club Roundup:** W5AC participated in SCR from 11 January to 15 January 2019.
- **Tower:** W5MHN et al. noted that the tower was up for School Club Roundup and locked pointing East.

Adjourn: At 2032, N5TLT motioned to adjourn. KZ3G seconded this motion, and it passed without opposition. The meeting adjourned at 2033.

Presentation: KE0MXN et al. demonstrated how to operate in School Club Roundup.

Respectfully submitted,
Jace Nelson / KE0MXN
TAMU ARC Secretary

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Membership (2019)

Dave Gent	W5QZ
Kevin Glueck	N5TLT
Alexander Olah	KI5BVJ
Chris Gillett	KF5IBA
Matthew Komitsky	N/A
Martin Nau	W5MHN
Joshua Shaffer	AG5JH
Daniel Ghan	KM4OPI
Patrick Manning	KI5BVI
Jacob Morgan	KG5SDD
Jace Nelson	KE0MXN
Bill Preston	KZ3G
Matthew Conn	KG5VGM
Max Witek	KG5YRW
Connor Farrell	WG1GEM
Corder Guy	W5RHT
Santosh Ganji	KI5AVL
Michael Asher Nelson	N/A
Max Lesser	KG5HZE
Skyelar Head	KG5WZL
Evan Spencer	KG5ZZA
Emily Newby	KI5CWD
Ethan Galloway	KG5CBZ
Don Arnold	KI5BPM