

Tuscaloosa Amateur Radio Club
Meeting Minutes from 20 January 2020

Welcome and Introductions

Meeting called to order by President Stan Lee, KF4DGS, who invited members present to introduce themselves and give call signs.

Members and Guests Present:

Stan Lee	KF4DGS (President)
Robby Workman	AC4RW (VP, Net Manager)
Rob McCray	KN4VZR (Secretary/Treasurer)
Tommy Howell	KG4MPU (Repeater Trustee)
James B. Simms	KM4BQS
Everett Sharp	N4CY
Vince Busche	KG4EES
Jerry Moon	KM4STO
Herb Champion	KG4BJH
Jack Rigsby	KC4LKT
David Prestridge	KM4UGI
Eddie Lary	WS4I
James Smothers	KG4RRR
Michael Krueger	KI4OXX
Barry Newsom M.D.	KN4JEL
Kirk Junkin	N4KRJ
Jim Wedlake	KD4MZL
Michael Ehmke	Guest

Old Business

Discussion: By-Law change – Michael Krueger brought forward a recommendation to amend the By-Laws to change the method in which dues notices are sent to members from a paper mail-out to using e-mail. After discussion by several club members, it was determined e-mail would become the primary method of notification, with follow-up by mail if there was no success in contacting the individual(s) by e-mail. It was proposed to amend the current draft By-Laws with language that supported the above decision.

Discussion: Robby (AC4RW) advised that the club is currently operating under a draft copy of the By-Laws. Rob McCray added that no electronic copy of the By-Laws is known to exist but an editable digital copy could be created from the paper copy. Discussion continued with the aim of presenting a non-draft copy of the By-Laws for ratification. Ratification of the By-Laws will resume next meeting with the hopes that a new copy of the By-Laws can be presented for review and adoption by the club members.

New Business

Discussion: Robby (AC4RW) proposed the possibility of the club renting a Post Office box for the club. The benefits of which would be to allow multiple officers/designees access to the box in the absence of the Secretary Treasurer. The cost is estimated at \$100 annum. Discussion turned towards cost versus value with Michael Krueger estimating the club's average mail to be around 30 letters and 30 bills a year. Other options such as renting UPS box were considered. Kirk (N4KRJ) volunteered to allow the club to share the Hamfest P.O. box. A motion was made to accept this and seconded. Motion approved.

Discussion: The new website: Stan (KG4DGS) reported that the TARC website has been upgraded with an address of <https://tclarc.org/>. Robby (AC4RW) advised that it linked the two other websites that the club uses to this new location so that all content will be visible in one site. Robby requested members visit the site and provide feedback for its improvement. Future enhancements will include having the club roster self-contained with the ability to e-mail the club through the website.

Treasurer's Report

Rob (KN4VZR) reported that all accounts are reconciled and that dues were beginning to stream in and those received have already been deposited.

Repeater Trustee

Tommy (KG4MPU) reported that the repeaters are working with no anomalies.

Net Manager

Robby (AC4RW) reported that during the recent weather event that came through West Alabama, the net stood up and participated in a simultaneous event with other area nets. Approximately 50 area Hams participated and the combined net went well. Robby provided some advice on real-world net participation and provided some examples of appropriate and inappropriate inputs to the net. Robby suggested that a net liaison during simultaneous net events could assist in coordinating. Eddie Lary added that this was a good opportunity to participate in net activity.

Other Discussion

Stan invited Jim (KFD4MZL) to speak regarding equipment available for the club to invest in from an estate sale of a former late member. Jim reported that the family (Grandson) would like to know if the club was interested in offering a nominal fee to purchase all of the equipment for resale by the club. Several members spoke, with the general consensus that a purchase of dated equipment in unknown condition was not generally profitable and that older equipment tended to be large and would have to be stored by someone. With the club leaning towards not offering any sum of money. Jim suggested that he report back to the family with this information but suggested that they may decide to just have someone go pick up the equipment to keep it from going on the street. Jim said he would advise us of the family's decision.

Stan (KF4DGS) updated the members that there will be a meeting at Mr. Bill's on February 11, 2020 of individuals interested in volunteering for the Black Warrior Hamfest scheduled for May 2, 2020 at Tuscaloosa County High School.

Next Meeting

The next TARC meeting is scheduled for February 10th, 2020 at 7:00 in the Faucett Room. Guest speaker will be Wes Wyatt, Meteorologist.