



Minutes SERC Meeting February 5 2024

SERC President Steve KS4YP called the meeting to order at 1900 hours with 14 members in attendance and two guests.

Secretary: John W3ATR asked for a motion to approve the minutes for January as posted on the SERC website. Mickey KM4BHF made the motion which was seconded by Mike WOMJL. Motion passed.

Treasurer: Don KT3V reported on our current financial status. No changes in the money market or CD accounts. Current dues have been enough to purchase additional items required by SERC at this time.

Grant Committee: Chairman Mickey KM4BHF discussed the current situation with the Giving Challenge coming up April 19 and the Flanzer grants.

Membership: Chairman Matt N4TTW was not in attendance due to fathers fall. Don reported that dues have come in and he needs to review this with Matt.

Webmaster: Tim KO4IHP was not present. Steve KY4YP reported on changes to our website including changes to the SAR 11 & 12 repeaters which are no longer connected. SAR 11 is now operating on NXDN and SAR 12 is analog.

Tech Committee: President Steve KS4YP reported on the purchase of LiFePO4 batteries for our Go Boxes. John KE4GNB has been donating used scooter batteries to SERC. These still have some useful life and the plan is to chain them together in series and use them as back up power at the repeater sites.

Some discussion was made regarding the use of Grant's to purchase equipment and parts. Mickey KM4BHF pointed out that Grants often specify exactly what they money will be used for within a specific time frame. They do not lend themselves to maintenance and upkeep items. This is why both the Giving Grant and Flanzer are so important to SERC as they do not have any restrictions on the use of the money.

This was followed by a discussion regarding computers specifically for Winlink use with our Go Boxes. John W3ATR pointed out that SERC policy was for operators to bring their own computers should the need arise. This is due to the fact the computers must be maintained with the latest Winlink updates and everyone sets their computers up differently. The question remains unresolved for immediate action.

Don KT3V reported that the Top antenna on the ARC mast apparently has been hit by lightning. The antenna is inoperative at this time. The 220 MHz radio has been moved to the #4 antenna in the meantime. Mickey KM4BHF discussed the possibility of coordinating the cost of a climber with other clubs for a better rate.

New Business: Steve KS4YP brought up the need for Simplex testing at the Hospitals due to line of site issues and possibility of additional antenna installations at the hospitals. Chuck K1CHC discussed the drill last year and that simplex did not work at the hospitals. This resulted in further discussion regarding our MOU with the Hospital and their lack of response. Last year the hospital had 12 people interested in obtaining their ham ticket but that fell through. Steven W4SNW brought up the idea of SERC training the Hosp personnel. As the MOU status remains a question nothing was done.

Programs Chairman: Steven W4SNW again called for members willing to make presentations at our meetings to contact him. He also discussed Winlink weekends and other activities to improve our Winlink capabilities as operators. Tonight's program is a discussion of the "Good old Days" of Ham Radio.

President Steve KS4YP called for motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was made by Mickey KM4BHF and seconded by Don KT3V and approved.

Respectively submitted John W3ATR Secretary