



Sarasota Emergency Radio Club

P.O. Box 50963, Sarasota, FL 34232

SERC Meeting 9-9-2024

President Steve KS4YP called the meeting to order at 1902, followed by leading the Pledge of Allegiants by all members. A total of 16 members and one guest were in attendance.

Secretary Report: John W3ATR asked the membership to approve the minutes of the June meeting as posted on our web site. Steve W3NSW made the motion and seconded by Fritz N4DPF. The motion passed unanimously. Meetings were not held in July and August.

Treasurers Report: Don KT3V reported on our current funds available during June, July, and August. He reported that the club received a check for \$5591 from the Giving Challenge and a check for \$5000 was given to the ARC for the air conditioning upgrade. The Club authorized installation of new AC equipment for Redcomm not to exceed \$8,000. Quotes received from AC contractors exceeded \$10,000. As part of a building overhaul of the AC system the ARC contracted to upgrade their AC at a cost of over \$15,000. This upgrade included the capability of controlling the temperature in Redcomm. ARC will also maintain the system as part of their regular scheduled maintenance. The SERC BOD felt that the contribution to our ARC Chapter House deserved a substantial contribution to help offset their costs and as a thankyou to our hosts to move forward with the AC upgrade. Don also reported that we currently have 61 paid members as of June.

Technical Report: Steve KS4YP discussed our current technical situation at Comcast and that a weather apt has been added to our NXDN radio in Redcomm by Chuck K1CHC. An antenna has been purchased to mount on SMHS to connect SAR 13 & 15 to interface with Venice. The second antenna is intended as a spare for our existing antennas. The pending work as SMHS is being postponed until we have some cooler weather as the installation will be on the roof of the tower. He also reported that SERC will not be conducting testing sessions due to adjacent clubs currently doing testing.

Grants: Mickey KM4BHF reported that Flanzer will continue to maintain SERC's profile in their files although we will no longer participate in their ongoing matching funds. Our present situation does not meet the Flanzer criteria for matching funds. Flanzer can be maintained as a source of Grant monies for specific projects or significant purchases should the need arise.

Mail Box: Postmaster Steve KS4YP reported our current mail as being all JUNK Mail.

Old Business: No outstanding old business was discussed.

New Business: Mike KG7KIQ reported that only one Signalink remained in our inventory. Four signalinks have been added to the Go Boxes issued to Hospital Operators. He requested that SERC add 2 or 3 new signalinks to our inventory. Some discussion was made regarding alternative sound modems. The general consensus was that sticking to the Signalinks maintained the standard modem in use and would avoid programming issues. Fritz N4DPF made a motion to purchase 3 additional Signalinks at a price not to exceed \$400.00 and was seconded by Paul KT4AS. The motion passed unanimously.

Don KT3V brought up the topic of HF net operation. The majority of attendees do not have HF capabilities. However, it was pointed out that there are several HF nets that our members can check into. The morning S FL ARES net on 3.940 operates Monday through Saturday is a good one to check into.

Steve KS4YP brought up the issue of our meeting night as attendance has been much lower than before covid. He wondered whether changing the meeting night might enable more members to attend. Following some discussion, it was felt that the current meeting night has stood unchanged for a number of years. Changing it would only create issues particularly as Snowbirds start to come South. The group decision was to keep the meeting night to the first Monday of the month.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mickey KM4BHF and seconded by Ned K8RZA motion passed unanimously at 1932 hours.

Steve W4SNW presented an excellent discussion regarding historic Satellite Communication.