

MINUTES for MARCH 4, 2024 NCARC Board Meeting
Held in Person at the Salvation Army Building, 10725 Alta Street, Grass Valley
(for additions or corrections, contact wa6nrg@yahoo.com)

1. AI6MC brought the in-person meeting to order at 1105, March 4, 2024 with a quorum present. All board members were present before the meeting ended.

2. Old Business

a. The board thanked AI6MC for his very fine presentation on Satellite Communications at the February club meeting

b. The minutes from the February 12, 2024 board meeting were approved without addition or correction. The February meeting had been delayed from February 5 to February 12 due to weather conditions.

c. Membership, Treasurer, & VE Report

KI6CM reports 52 members with one pending; funds are \$6029.80..

Next VE test is at the Salvation Army in April. Schedule your test with KI6CM.

d. Repeater Report - One check-in was noticed from Sierra City on the 015 machine. The board encourages the members to monitor the network and report any issues to the repeater operators or club leaders. NCARC needs help in monitoring the network, and at the same time additional use of the network is encouraged (use it or lose it!). Remember to add your call sign to key clicks and enjoy contacts with other members.

e. Net Report - No report.

f. Status of search for Rotary Ride leader for June 1, 2024. Mentoring is available should an interested member step forward. Without a leader, the event will go on as previously conducted.

g. Other old business? none

3. New Business

a. March Meeting Agenda

- Presentation on Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network (SATURN) by Lauren Styles WA6CIE.
- Raffle to be held, \$1/ticket for ARRL Vintage Radio book donated by WA6NRG.

b. The April Meeting presentation will be by live Zoom during the meeting by Richard Dillman on the history of the Marconi Station at Point Reyes. Many rare pictures of the station will be presented as well as an update on current ham CW operations.

c. WA6NRG mentioned an interest in finding a presenter for matching feed lines to antennas in a future meeting. If you have suggestions for future topics to be presented, please provide your suggestions to any of the board members.

d. The Nevada County Fair (Aug 7-11, 2024) was mentioned. KA6SUB mentioned he has not received any information but expects to hear in March. There was discussion that other non-profits may be

leaving the fair this year due to increased costs. In the past, the club has paid admission and parking for members manning the booth, but this cost may be past on to the members themselves this year should the club decide to support this event (estimated \$10 admission and \$10 parking per day). A fair event leader will be required so the board would like a volunteer. No decision for the club to have a booth at the fair in 2024 has yet been made.

e. The next board meeting on Zoom, April 1, 2024 at 11 AM.

4. Budget Review

Chuck KI6CM, our treasurer, provided a budget which is to be approved yearly by the board. The proposed budget was accepted without change.

The purpose of this budget review was to provide insights to the board as to the current and future financial status of the club. Costs are increasing. Some costs can be mitigated and in fact many budget categories last year were underspent. However, some costs are necessary and those costs include P.O. Box rental, Hall rental, Insurance, Website, and Zoom costs, totaling \$1330/year. Dues from 50 members at \$20/member equals \$1000. Other club event costs are manageable but only add to a deficit.

This year, efforts at meetings will be increased to have raffles, sale tables, etc. to help offset the deficit. For example, the February raffle of the ARRL Antenna Books donated by AI6MC added \$90 to the club. The club has money in reserve with some reserved in the event of a repeater emergency. (Note that the club uses private repeaters that are not club assets, but the repeaters are critical to the club viability, and the club may required to provide significant funding on short notice in the event of a significant repeater failure.) Continued deficit spending will degrade club viability. If you have excess items which could be donated to the club for raffle, please let the board members know so this information can be provided in Ham&Coffee to allow meeting attendees to prepare for ticket purchases at club meetings!

The board would like to know if the club would like to sponsor a flea market. Other avenues include seeking support from ham businesses.

There was discussion as to the NCARC Value Proposition. What is the primary value of the club to members? The board would be interested to know what members feel are the most important aspects of the club.

As a partial mitigation to the growing deficit, the board voted to raise club dues to \$25 from \$20 in 2025.

5. End of Meeting

submitted wa6nrg, March 4, 2024