

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE KINGS COUNTY RADIO CLUB

KCRC



December 2016

The Ridiculously Abridged Edition

Volume 3, Issue 12^A

Minutes of the December 2016 KCRC Meeting, December 7th, 2016

Perhaps the Annual Holiday Party frightened away curious visitors to our December “Pre-Meeting Questions and Answer Session” - the usual gang took up the slack, rag chewing away.

The monthly meeting was called to order at 8 PM, by our President, Howard N2GOT. Also present at tonight’s meeting were Treasurer Richard KA2KDQ, General Secretary Roy AC2GS, Executive Board Member at Large Mitch N2RGA, Milen N2NYU, Daniel W5TAB, Steve W2GOP, Howard K2IGJ, Simon KD2LQE, and our newest member John WB2LFU.

The usual round table introductions were tabled because all present know each other, all too well. Instead, Howard N2GOT took the opportunity, at his final meeting as President, to offer up an eloquent summation that the Club has been progressing in an excellent direction. That our Club has grown and increased its visibility in the Amateur Radio Community as a vibrant, living organization dedicated to improving the hobby and informing and educating Amateur Radio Operators as well as those curious about our hobby. He thanked Mitch N2RGA for his great job as web master of the Club’s website, as well as Roy AC2GS’ help to keep it current and informative. He thanked Mitch N2RGA for all of his work on the Repeater, as well as the help given by Milen N2NYU and Simon KD2LQE. He thanked the VE Officers for their work, as well as all the other selfless jobs that club members have taken on by themselves, to make our club what it is today and what it might become into the future.

A motion was presented to accept the Minutes of the November Meeting, and was passed unanimously.

Treasurer Report—Richard KA2KDQ, reported that our Treasury currently has \$973.33 in assets in our bank account. We have two new members this past month—John KD2LFN and John WB2LFU. We presently have 49 Club Members, and more than 28% of our members have paid their 2017 dues! (Please pay your 2017 dues, if you haven’t yet— either by PayPal thru the website, or by a check to our Treasurer Richard KA2KDQ.

2 Meter Report—Richard KA2KDQ reported that the 2 Meter Net was doing well, but Repeater problems have made it difficult for him to operate as Net Control Operator at times, due to his compromised antenna. Both Howard N2GOT as well as Steve W2GOP declared that 2017 will be the year that Richard’s antenna problem will be solved one way or another.

10 Meter Report—Our Net Control operator, Milen N2NYU reported generally poor propagation conditions limiting distant communications, but we have a healthy number of local check-ins and our Net entertains a healthy amount of technical discussions, that has, at times, led to Nets lasting more than 3 hours long! Milen N2NYU’s 10 Meter signal has been steadily improving as he tries out different antenna and antenna tuning options.

Old News: Our next VE Session will be December 18th at 1 PM. There was a discussion of formalizing a regular bi-monthly VE Session for the Club. Although our present liaison officer might not be available on all dates, Milen N2NYU offered to be Assistant Liaison Officer for those problematic date. Roy AC2GS offered to evaluate the 2017 calendar and suggest possible dates for consideration by the other VE Examiners and Methodist Hospital room availability. Please keep up to date with VE information by following posts on the club website: www.kingscountyradioclub.com/ve-team . The Club is always looking for new VE’s to join our VE Sessions, as well as assistant and/or co-Liaison VE Officers. For ANY interested individuals please contact any Executive Member of the Club, or the return email address for these emails of our Club Meeting’s minutes. People took time out of their busy lives to help get you licensed - pass on the favor!

Repeater work progresses. Mitch N2RGA reported that the Repeater is no longer locking up on the transition from analog to digital mode nor vice versa. The pre-amp appears to have broken again (the second time), and has been removed from the Repeater. We discussed whether the pre-amp should be repaired and then whether

it should be re-inserted into the Repeater chain, or sold off. A lively discussion followed, regarding our Repeater's less than optimal receive sensitivity. Desensing was discussed, either from a duplexer being out of tune or local RF nearby. Higher gain antennas were discussed. The short term plan arrived at, was to bypass the power amplifier and see if the decreased local RF was no longer desensing the receiver's front end. Also we discussed asking Stuart WA2JNF, a friend of the club, to check out whether the duplexer was properly tuned or if he had any ideas. The significant expense of a new, higher gain antenna was tabled for a future discussion pending the results of our future investigations. Steve W2GOP opined that receiver sensitivity was all well and good, but it was much more important to attract a lively culture of Hams to the Repeater itself. Steve W2GOP suggested a LIMARC-like TechNet and volunteered Roy AC2GS for this project. There was discussion of a Fusion/C4FM digital mode Net, but the best time and exclusionary nature of a proprietary digital mode was not fully explored during this meeting. Keep tuned for future announcements (we may have an experimental pilot KCRC TechNet for everyone in January—IF people support it)!

The Club's QSL collection was discussed. A disgruntled member, Juan KC2QNX, seemed to be displaying them on his QRZ page, along with slanders to our Club. Gary N2WGR volunteered to reacquire them for the club, but due to personal circumstances, he has not been able to attend regular meetings lately. Howard N2GOT volunteered to see if he could facilitate the return of our Club QSL cards to the Club.

Nominations for 2017 elected positions were held in November. Mitch N2RGA was nominated for President, Howard N2GOT for Vice President, Richard KA2KDQ was nominated for Treasurer, Roy AC2GS was nominated for Secretary, Milen N2NYU and Howard K2IGJ were nominated for Executive Board Members, at Large. No one else was nominated to any office, so a motion to accept all unopposed candidates was made by Roy AC2GS, seconded by Mitch N2RGA and passed unanimously by all members in good standing attending the meeting.

At 10:00 PM the meeting was adjourned.

See ya all in January!

Disclaimer: The views and opinions expressed in this publication are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the official policies or positions of the Kings County Radio Club, its Executive Board, nor its General Membership.

These minutes were respectfully recorded and submitted by Roy AC2GS on this day, December 7th, in the two thousandth and sixteenth year of our Lord of Propagation...

ON BEHALF OF THE ELECTED
OFFICERS OF
THE KINGS COUNTY RADIO CLUB
WE ALL WISH YOU, OUR MEMBERS,
AND YOUR FAMILIES,
A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS,
A HAPPY HANNUKAH,
AND A
HAPPY AND HEALTHY NEW YEAR.



(AC2GS would like to thank all the people that maintain the program and the keyboard used to type these minutes, as well as those that supply his food and shelter. Regretfully, Riley Hollingsworth has no opinion, whatsoever, regarding any aspect of this Newsletter.)55

The Kings County Radio Club is at www.KC2RC.com or
www.KingsCountyRadioClub.com
KCRC is an ARRL affiliated club (see: www.ARRL.org)