

Boca Raton Amateur Radio Association

Minutes of General Meeting 5-June-2018

Director Attendance

Bruce KO4XL, Patrick KE4OBV, Jeff K4BH, Jeff W4AEQ, John N1QFH

MINUTES for 5-June-2018

The BRARA monthly association meeting was held at the West Boca Library. The meeting was called to order by President Bruce KO4XL at 7:10 PM. There were 32 members and 1 guest present. Bruce introduced the directors and members introduce themselves. New members shared likes and objectives.

Secretary's Report

Minutes: Through the president, asked for motion to approve and waive the reading of the minutes. Moved by Jeff.S K4BH and 2nd by Ed N4II. The motion was carried by a voice vote.

Membership: As of 1-May-2019, we had 122 paid members, 3 associate, 2 life-time, 114 regular. The license classes include 7 advanced, 61 extra, 27 general, and 22 technicians and 82 belong to ARRL. We had 2 new members join our organization, 113 MTD member logons were observed for an average of 4.7 MTD sessions per logon, 2 new web site capabilities, 324 subscribers of which 135 are members.

Communication: Asked attendees to please subscribe to the newsletter.

Website: Added FD2018 details and some new capabilities.

Equipment Sales: Select Equipment will be for sale sometime after field day.

Net Control Operators: Contact Jeff.R W4AEQ / John.C for details. NCS are needed and training provided.

Membership cards: See John.C for your cards. These are available at monthly meetings and at the shack.

FD2018: All Field-day (23 & 24 June 2018) dedicated documents and links are our website

President's Report

Training Committee: Next technician class is scheduled for first two July Saturdays (July 7th and 14th) location is to be announced. Testing session is 2nd Thursday in August.

Announcements: general meeting location change for 7-August will be at shack at West Delray Park due to the library hosting elections. This will also occur in November due to elections.

Safety Committee: Since our existing member is unable to fill this role, we are seeking a new member to volunteer as Safety Officer for our club. This is an excellent gateway to become more involved with our organization while making a minimal time commitment. The responsibilities were explained. We will be installing smoke and CO2 detectors and exit signs. Also the fire extinguishers will be checked and as needed recharged.

Welcoming Committee: no report

House Committee: no report. Need someone to volunteer to chair this committee.

Radio Status: IC-7600 is down, not functional. Art is looking at options how to handle this outage for this transceiver. Art's FT-100MP is now in place of the IC-7600 at station-1. Presently cannot do 6m from station-1.

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Vice President's Report

Newsletter: Reviewed the original purpose as printed publication and role it filled. Will transition the newsletter information to the website, will compact some content which is by nature very dynamic by having links on our website. This will start next month by using a landing page. Will be fine tuning the format. The email blast link to the newsletter PDF document will be replaced with the newsletter entry point on our website.

Security: In process of changing gate keys where we have two locks in series. If you are key holder, you will need to exchange your key in person at the shack on Wednesday or Saturday for the new key and have a brief refresher on shack access. Exchange has been extended to end of June where 1-July the old lock is coming off. In July the door code to the shack will be changed and made known to the members.

Amazon Smiles: We as a club now participate in the revenue stream and the URL is smile.amazon.com. You may select organization like ours where Amazon will donate a percentage of your Amazon purchases to that cause. This does not raise the price and does not cost you anything. If you select BRARA as the organization, BRARA gets ½ of a percent of purchase amount which goes to funding our association.

DMR: No update

AED: AED Grant was announced as partial funding. We'll have to make up the difference which the board is looking into by various means. This is a very important device to help ensure the wellbeing of our members.

NETS: Reminder of Sunday DMR net at 8pm, Monday Voice net at 7pm followed by So county NBEMS net at 8pm and Tuesday CERT net at 7.30pm. On the So County NBEMS, net we transmit various digital messages using various modes.

Treasurer's report

At month end we had a balance of \$4,265. Expenses totaled \$289 for food and equipment. No pending / outstanding expenses. Collected \$228 and made deposits totaling \$228. Have no deposits pending / not posted.

Director at Large: Gerry.Z W4BFL

Shack access: no report

Technical Committee: no report

Social Media: no report

Repeater Trustee: no report

Testing: Testing session is 2nd Thursday in August.

Director at Large: Jeff.S K4BH

Emergency communication: we are in hurricane season with one storm behind us. Make sure you have all items ready. We're in tax holiday for related items. Time is running out. Go to traffic nets to learn how to handle traffic on 146.61 So FL Traffic net daily at 6pm.

Repeater Trustee: Lew K4LEW

Status: Reported all is working as expected. Organizing items to go to the repeater site.

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Director at Large: George.S WA2VNV

VHF / UHF Tower: no report

HF Tower: no report

VHF / UHF Station: no report

Weather Station: Jeff.S K4BH received donated station; we need to decide next steps.

QSL Status Report: Ed N1II

Reported the LoTW issues and credits were resolved. Reported LoTW 3 new countries worked this month, 274 countries on DxCC, and 203 on phone, 234 on CW. Lot of 20m FT8 activity by club members (W2RT), 48 worked all states (WAS) and need WY and ND. Got 5 band worked all zones (WAZ), got us to 159 of 200 zones. 6M has been hopping last few weeks, worked a lot of Europe about 10am to 11.30am daily on FT8 on 50.313 MHz for North America and 50.323 MHz for Europe. May use 50.333 MHz if it's really overloaded. We received QSL cards such as Bangladesh.

Old Business

Bruce.R KO4XL announced the following:

- Next BRARA meeting is Tuesday 3-July-2018 at this library, August we at the shack
- Field day 2018 23-24 June with detail to follow after this business meeting

New Business

- John.Q KM4MFW discussed BSA at Camp Tanah Keeta desire to put up a tower. Wanted to know if the towers lying on the ground at the shack could be used for this purpose. Bruce KO4XL said he had some prior discussions, this will be revisited.
- Ray W2CH asked about the next DMR presentation and when it may occur. Jeff W4AEQ gave an update and it will be announced.

Adjournment

With no further association business, Bruce called for a motion to adjourn. Motion made by Jeff K4BH and 2nd by Ray W2CH and approved by voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 7:21pm local time.

Presentation – John.C N1QFH on Field day 2018 (FD2018)

Respectfully submitted,
John Cole N1QFH, Secretary