

Meeting called to order at 10 AM March 21, 2015 at Ralph, K9ZO house.

Present in person

Craig K9CT, President  
Ralph, K9ZO  
Bill, K3WA

Present via Skype

Chad, WE9V  
Ryan, KB9OWD  
Mike, AJ9C

Proxies from absent members held by K9CT and K3WA.

Sam, K9SD has regrettably resigned from the board for personal reasons. The board agreed to accept his request at the conclusion of the meeting.

Minutes of the last meeting were approved as posted on the website.

We read and accepted the treasurer's report as presented.

Chase Checking Acct ..... \$2973.18

PayPal.....\$6018.33

Total .....\$8991.51

Website was discussed. Everyone on the board has been pleased with our progress and content. Chad will improve the archiving of our posts. The BlackHole Newsletter from the past will be scanned and uploaded to the website. Two FAQs needed to be added to the website, Multi-op operation and SO2R operation. Craig was selected for Multi-op and Mike, W9RE will be asked to write the SO2R.

SMC Fest dates were selected to not conflict with contests and some separation from Dayton and W9DXCC - July 25th, Aug 22nd or Aug. 29th. Chad, WE9V will post a survey on the SMC reflector to pick the best date for our membership to attend. We also decided that we would locate the meeting near Bloomington, IL so that it was near our center of the SMC membership. Site to be determined but close to hotel and dining.

The Dayton Hamvention hospitality suite was discussed. For many reasons, we decided to not support this anymore. We will have tables at the contest dinner and the DX dinner for our

membership. We also will investigate having a separate room near the Contest floor of the Crowne Plaza for our members to meet up for an hour.

W9DXCC will be supported with a contest training track as part of their DX University. This will be a half day track of classes that should be helpful to our own membership and others that might become our members. We will jointly plan this training with the W9DXCC team to make the a mutual benefit and success. Our members will be asked to be instructors for this half day.

The Friday night reception/dinner has proven successful and we want to continue the informal get-together at a local restaurant close to the W9DXCC hotel.

Zig, KM9M was unanimously selected to continue as our membership support and treasurer. He does this very well and we sincerely appreciate his willingness to do this.

SMC Membership was discussed. We have seen an increase of about 10% over the last year. We want to make sure our members are getting the benefits and attract more as a result of the perceived value. Ryan, KB9OWD has been a leader for the club in finding active contesters for club membership and he agreed to be our Membership team leader. He will chair a committee to study the demographics of our recent membership to find any trends.

The 2015 budget was prepared and discussed. We decided to fund IL, WI and IN for \$75 each for their state QSO parties. Additional awards may be added as a result. Costs of some of the plaques have risen and we needed to adjust our budget. SMC Fest needed more funding. The SMC Challenges for NAQP and SMC have been very popular and it was agreed to increase funding for each session for a total of \$750.

Member income is around \$2400 per year and we are close to break even with this budget as approved.

The discussion of the budget stimulated a discussion on Awards. We want to assess the Plaques we sponsor. A committee chaired by Ralph, K9ZO will study this and report to the membership at SMC Fest. Mike, AJ9C volunteered for this and Chuck, KI9A will be asked to join.

We concluded the meeting at 2 PM.