

DRA Meeting Minutes

September 13, 2016

The DRA meeting was called to order by Frank Filipkowski, AD3M at 7:03 P.M. held in the Community Room of the New Castle County Safety Building. The roll was called with the following people present: Frank AD3M, Bill W3DE, Paul K3PGM, Mark KA3JUU, George KB3QVA, Joe N1FLU, Jeff K3JRZ, and Bill N3EDO. The pledge of allegiance to the flag was led by Frank AD3M. There was a moment of silence for silent keys and fallen protectors of our country.

The business portion of the meeting was opened and Frank AD3M stated there were many items of business. Frank AD3M asked for a report from the officers. Bill W3DE read the treasurer's report as submitted by Wayne KB3RVR. Motion made by George KB3QVZ to accept the report as read and seconded and passed. Bill W3DE then read the June 14, 2016 minutes as submitted by Wayne KB3RVR. Motion was made and seconded by George KB3QVA to accept the minutes and the motion was passed. Frank stated for information that he had purchased two new Fusion repeaters for the club. The 448.375 machine is in operation now. Now, it is running on Frank's duplexer and amplifier. The DRA duplexer has been sent out for repair and we should discover soon if it is usable. The club does not have an amplifier for this repeater at the present time. The Motorola equipment will be moved and repurposed. The VHF repeater is not yet hooked up and the duplexer for that machine is in good shape and hopefully the amplifier will work. The 448.375 is being experimented with the WIRES for the purpose of linking repeaters. There is an exercise coming on Saturday, October 1st from 9 am until noon there will be a SET (simulated emergency test) and hopefully the WIRES system will be in place for this test. More information should be forthcoming about this test. It is hoped that many will participate. The CARES 444.400 (PL 100) repeater will be the primary repeater for the exercise. Dave Scott is looking for people to participate in training for the New Castle County Emergency management system. If interested contact Frank at AD3M@arrl.net and he will pass on the information.

As for the old business, the status of what is happening at the Newark Repeaters will have to be addressed in the future due to the fact that those handling this project are not present. It looks as though the club will need to pay to have someone put up the antennas. The purchase of the paint for the painting of the fence at the Brandywine Tower was mentioned but since Dave KC3AM is not present that discussion will need to wait. Bill W3DE volunteered to schedule the date for the painting of the fence. Frank AD3M suggested that Sundays be used and to do it over the course of several Sundays. Bill W3DE moved that we proceed with the fence project, procuring paint and setting a date to do the painting, seconded by Bill N3EDO and carried.

There is also a two-day course at the Delaware State Fire School for those who have passed the ICS training by FEMA in October for information contact Frank at AD3M@arrl.net.

Frank AD3M stated that he had found a gadget called the UDRC (universal digital radio controller) which allows a Yaesu 1X repeater to also allow the repeater to send and receive DSTAR. Paul K3PGM has requested that the DRA do a test with the ARDEN (amateur radio digital emergency network) project. The routers would be taken to the top of the Brandywine tower and see if a link could be established with the Christiana Hospital using the hardware K3PGM already has.

Motion to adjourn was made, seconded and passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Wayne KB3RVR

Post Script Note:

Wayne H. Hale our DRA Secretary/Treasurer has an New Call K3WHH. I congratulate Wayne on his new call sign. May he have the new call for many year to come.

73,

Bill Greenhalgh - Trustee DRA