

TLARC Meeting Minutes

January 19, 2022

- President Richard Meyer W8CNY called the meeting to order at 6:12 pm EST. The location was Chota Recreation Center, Room D, Tellico Village.
- Attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Roll Call confirmed 20 total attendees – 19 licensed members and 1 guest. All those present signed the meeting sign-in sheet.
- Secretary Chuck Ferguson N4CSF acknowledged prior distribution of the DRAFT December 4, 2021, meeting minutes for review. The minutes were adopted as presented.
- OFFICER REPORTS –

President Richard Meyer W8CNY:

- Mike Wagner KK6OKU and Mike Foley K4MJF were recognized for their executive leadership of the Club during 2021.
- President Meyer addressed the lack of a January program, the availability of his and Vice President Ben Poff's biographies by e-mail and online, his experience more on the equipment side of Amateur Radio versus the operating side, and the reference value of the Ham Radio for Dummies publication.
- The 2021 TLARC Executive Team handed off leadership and resources to the 2022 Executive Team on January 11, 2022, per the By-Laws.
- Personal goals include increasing membership, Club activities, and service footprint in the community.
- The majority presence of Extra-licensed members should be leveraged to formalize an Elmer program and conduct regularly scheduled exam sessions.
- Some of the monthly door prizes should be relevant to Amateur Radio. January door prizes included electronic multimeters and Ham Radio band plans. One of February's door prizes will be a wattmeter, courtesy of W8CNY.
- President Meyer introduced his desire to consolidate the existing Club Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws, rather than maintain separate documents. He said he would consider the State legal impacts that might result from such a change.

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- The By-Laws are silent on electronic meetings and budget preparation. They also allow “attendees” to constitute a quorum, which potentially could result in a two-person quorum. We may need to establish a committee to consider what changes, if any, are in order. This is your Club, and these are your By-Laws.
- Honorary Challenge Coins were presented to Mike Wagner KK6OKU, Mike Foley K4MJF, David Weikert KF4DKW, Allan Tarbell K1AT, and Brad Berger KM4OJK in recognition of their special achievement for the public good – integrity, service, and excellence in all they do.

Vice President Ben Poff KN4VIF:

- The Vice President was unable to attend due to COVID issues within his family. He sent his best wishes to everyone while quarantining at home.
- President Meyer briefly mentioned the Vice President’s priorities for an event planning calendar, an organizational flowchart, EMCOMM networking (ARES, Hospital Net, Simplex Exercises, etc), and a formalized Elmer program.

Treasurer George Sifnotis WB9TFR:

- The end-December Financial Report was reported and included –
 - Total balance = \$3,553.40
 - Repeater fund = \$750.00
 - General fund = \$2,803.40 = \$2,643.40 starting balance + \$260.00 in deposits (dues x 13) – \$100.00 in expenses (Holiday Party tip)
- The Financial Report was accepted and filed for future audit.
- John Kiley KB4TV presented the year-end financial review. He and Brad Berger KM4OJK reviewed the 2021 numbers and found them to be in order. Mike Foley K4MJF moved to accept the financial review report for filing (no second required).
- Richard Meyer W8CNY dissolved the financial audit team upon completion and presentation of their review.

Secretary Chuck Ferguson N4CSF:

- The annual Club submissions were updated to reflect the new Club officers and completed with the help of David Andrews N1ESK –
 - IRS Form 990-N update (501(c)(3) approval status)
 - TN State Corporation Board update (tax-exempt corporation status)
 - ARRL affiliated Club update

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- STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS (Permanent) –

Repeater - David Weikert KF4DKW:

- The report noted significant work by he and David Andrews N1ESK to upgrade the repeater cabinet, demolish shelves/racks, install a new larger rolling rack, improve cable entries, and clean up of Fire Department and POA equipment. A presentation of the repeater work will be made

Website - Jeff Buffington N4POD:

- No report filed. Chuck Ferguson N4CSF reported he has requested website updates and uploads of minutes and meeting times to reflect Club schedules more accurately.

Events Coordinator - Jeff Buffington N4POD:

- No report filed.

Net Control - Robin Monserrat KO4PNC:

- No report was filed. Richard Meyer W8CNY advised that Robin is still looking for more volunteers to serve as Net Control Station and Logger.

Public Information Officer - Mike McMillan KD9DCW:

- No report was filed. It was confirmed updates are needed in the POA Directory (new officer contacts) and The Connection (meeting schedule).

- SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS –

Club HF Facility/Shelter - Ted Goodhue W1EG:

- No report filed. Richard Meyer W8CNY and Ben Poff KN4VIF still need to review the draft survey that was prepared in December.

TLARC Cookbook - David Weikert KF4DKW:

- The cookbook production effort was overtaken by David's work schedule last year. Mike Wagner KK6OKU indicated he would help. The book was intended to be

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a printed hard copy and sold for fund raising purposes. Richard Meyer W8CNY has a plastic spine binder machine.

- SPECIAL ORDERS (Required in By-Laws) –

Year-End 2021 Financial Audit - John Kiley KB4TV and Brad Berger KM4OJK:

- Item addressed earlier in the Treasurer's Report.

Year-End 2021 Turnover of Club Records and Assets:

- Item addressed earlier in the meeting in the President's Report.

Membership Coordinator (Roster, Upgrades, Dues, etc):

- There is no official membership coordinator for the Club. The role was filled by the 2021 Executive Leadership. The Secretary is responsible for the membership roster, per the By-Laws. There were 70 active members as of the meeting. Approximately 55% of all active 2021 members have renewed for 2022. Outstanding 2022 dues must be submitted by January 31, 2022. On February 1, 2022, those members, who have not paid their renewal dues will be removed from the active membership roll.

Program Coordinator:

- It was confirmed this role is filled by the Vice President, per the By-Laws.

- UNFINISHED BUSINESS –

Central Club Post Office Box in Lenoir City:

- USPS' 2022 post office box rates increased to \$166 per year. The November 2021 Club approval of a central P.O. Box specified a cost not to exceed \$120 per year. The approved motion could not be fulfilled because the cost of the P.O. Box acquisition exceeded \$120 per year. Angela Montgomery N4RPR then moved the Club procure a USPS P.O. Box for 1 year at a cost not to exceed \$166. Jeff Buffington N4POD seconded the motion. Considerable follow-on discussions addressed USPS, UPS, POA, and personal mailbox options. Mike Wagner KK6OKU emphasized the importance of centralized and redundant mailbox access to accomplishing Club

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business in a timely manner. Allan Tarbell K1AT and Joyce Tarbell K1JAT voiced concern over the annual cost of a fee-for box. The vote was called, and the motion carried 13-6. Richard Meyer W8CNY stated he would procure the P.O. Box as approved. He and Chuck Ferguson N4CSF will be the two keyholders.

- **NEW BUSINESS**

ARRL Club Grants:

- ARRL established a \$500K foundation to create grants for Club projects up to \$25K. Application forms will be posted on the ARRL website in April 2022. Discussions were tabled until the February 2022 monthly meeting to allow sufficient time for research and consideration.

New Zoom Subscription:

- The Club's Zoom license (managed by Michael Foley K4MJF) expired in January 2022. For the short term, David Andrews N1ESK offered the temporary use of his Zoom account for Club chats following weekly Wednesday nets. Jeff Buffington N4POD offered a non-Zoom option for future consideration. More to follow on this.

Security for SKs' Homes:

- Some SK homes have been targeted for robbery while vacant during funerals and burials. Mike Wagner KK6OKU advocated for members to donate their time to help SK families in these situations.

- **ANNOUNCEMENTS (Hamfests, Contests, Items for Sale, etc)**

Whitestone 30K Marathon:

- The event is scheduled for February 20, 2022, at Paint Rock. It is a joint effort with Roane County Amateur Radio Club. Contact David Weikert KF4DKW if you wish to support.

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Cherohala Challenge:

- The event is scheduled for June 11, 2022, at Tellico Plains and features a 120-mile bike race. Contact Mike Wagner KK6OKU if you wish to support.

Monroe County ARES:

- Mike Wagner KK6OKU advocated for emergency service opportunities. Monroe County ARES is standing up now under his Emergency Coordinator leadership. He has applications for those interested.

Presentation of Door Prizes:

- ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:00pm EST.

Respectfully submitted by Chuck Ferguson N4CSF, TLARC Secretary.