

Minutes of January 27, 2024
Regular Membership Meeting
of the Verde Valley Amateur Radio Association

Location: Prescott Golf Club in Dewey, AZ

Meeting Time: 1:00 PM A pre-meeting informal luncheon was available commencing at 11:00 AM

Present: About 35 members and guests of VVARA attended the regular membership meeting.

Outgoing Association President Steve Pearson, KC7TIL, convened the meeting and lead us in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance. Steve then introduced and congratulated all newly elected officers. They are incoming President Bill Jean, KK7LGE; Vice President Ron Rosson, N6XT; Treasurer Don Sears, N7PLL; Secretary Tim Sullivan, AC7TB; and Director-at-Large, Steve Pearson, KC7TIL.

Incoming President Bill Jean, KK7LGE, then gave brief gracious remarks acknowledging his election as President.

Guest Speaker: Bill Jean then introduced our guest speaker, Gene Crist, N7EJC, who gave a lively and interesting presentation about VHF-UHF SSB Terrestrial Communications. Gene answered numerous follow-up questions. He received a hearty round of applause at the conclusion of his talk. A copy of Gene's slide presentation is posted on the Club's website.

The meeting then returned to regular business.

Secretary's Report: Incoming Secretary Tim Sullivan, AC7TB was reintroduced and he explained that prior minutes are posted on the Association's website in advance of the next regular meeting. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Toby Payne, K7ABP. There were several seconds. A voice vote of the membership was held and the minutes of the last regular membership meeting of November 2023 and the minutes of the Zoom Meeting of Incoming and Outgoing Officers on January 15, 2024 were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Association Treasurer, Don Sears, N7PLL, gave an oral report while discussing a PowerPoint slide depicting the current position of the Associations finances. Don noted that the expenses shown for the 2023 Holiday Party in December, for which 25 members attended, are completely offset by contributions received from the Association members who attended. He invited members to contact him if they have any further questions regarding the Association's finances. Don noted that the Mingus Mountain repeater site now has a weather station that is linked to the Club's website. Members are encouraged to check out the weather station weblink. He also noted that the 2024 annual Association dues are due by April 1. Current dues are \$20 per family per annum. A Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was made by Marny Zuercher, KF7QVK. There were several seconds. A voice vote was held and the Treasurer's Report was accepted.

Membership Report: Starla Thompson, KE7DTS, Membership Chair, gave the Committee Report. Current VVARA membership is 154 paid, family and life members. There are 47 Association members who have not yet renewed for 2024. She encouraged all who have not yet renewed to contact Don Sears and pay their \$20 annual dues by April, 1, 2024. A motion to approved the Membership Report was made by Marny Zuercher, KF7QVK. The motion was seconded and approved by acclamation of the members.

Technical Committee Report: Steve Pearson, KC7TIL, gave the Technical Report as Matt Dutton, N7YIO, Committee Chair, was unable to attend. In addition to Matt, the members of the Technical Committee are Toby Payne, K7ABP, Steve Pearson, KC7TIL, Bob Shipton, K8EQC, Doug Theriault, NO1D, and Bob Thompson, KC8BOB. Steve thanked all of the members of the Technical committee for their efforts to update the Mingus Mountain repeater site. Steve summarized some of the successful improvements that have been made at the Mingus Mountain site and the income to the Association generated by the sale of surplus equipment after the upgrades were completed.

Steve noted that the Porcupine repeater site which is solar powered has been quite difficult to reach in past years due to a substandard road. Now that other telecommunications facility sites on Porcupine Mountain have been upgraded the condition of the road accessing our repeater site has been considerably improved. He stated that repeater equipment improvements would be made at the Porcupine Mountain site when the weather gets better and the schedules of the Technical Committee members permit.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned shortly before 200 PM.

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted on February 13, 2024 by Tim Sullivan, AC7TB, Secretary