

CMARC Meeting Minutes

DATE: December 8, 2024

Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm

Board member attendees: Kelly Fitzgerald N8FK (Director), Russ Fitzgerald N8FZ (Director), Tom Rocheleau WA8WPI (President), Dale Cole K8TS (Vice President), Gene Parker KE8QKN (Interim Secretary), Gordy Smith KE8JKS (Treasurer),. No virtual Board or club members attending.

Announcements/Discussions:

Membership:

- Concern about low membership participation, fewer members are showing up for meetings.
- Looking for suggestions to increase participation.
- How to generate and communicate opportunities for involvement, e.g.:
 - Impression 5
 - Airport fly-ins
 - Battle Creek hot air festival
 - Working with scouts re: merit badges
 - How our trailer can be used to demonstrate HAM radio activities

Concerns regarding candidate for the CMARC Board, again, how to generate ideas for greater participation. For 2025, assuming all Board members up for reelection, and with the one or two volunteers, the Board should be in good shape.

It was suggested, and discussed, the need to appoint a Field Day 2025 committee, most likely in January. A budget should be established for FD, as well. And there was the concern for volunteers and more participation. At this point, Chad Layke (spelling?) has offered to co-chair FD 2025, so the Board will be looking for a second co-chair.

The Board will be reexamining all club accounts, looking to standardize them. At present, different members, past and present, have created or opened accounts on behalf of the club, thus accounts may be in individual member's names. The Board would like to consolidate all accounts to prevent a "single point of failure" if a member were to unexpectedly leave the club. The first two up for review will be our Zoom account (perhaps explore other options) and providing a second credit card for the President to use, in addition to the credit card issued to the Treasurer.

The Board had a discussion regarding membership communications plan. The discussion included suggestions to create a master membership list to include information such as current membership (e.g., paid for the current year), home address, birthday and anniversary. The discussion included the pro's and con's of accepting only electronic payments (which provides a better opportunity to track payments for all parties. The discussion included a recommendation to write an annual report to be distributed to all members after the November meeting, which would include the status of the club and club activities for the prior year, a ballot with the nominated Board members for the December election and a membership form to return with payment.

Other Business:

A motion was proposed by Tom to conduct two separate meetings for December 2024. The first will be a membership meeting, then, upon adjournment, a second and separate meeting will be held for elections. This is supported by the Club's by-laws, which states (paraphrased) "Elections will be held between the last 14 days of November and the first 14 days of December; nominations will be closed at the conclusion of the last meeting prior to elections." The motion was carried unanimously.

The Board made an executive decision to write and distribute an annual report following the November meetings starting in 2025. The report will include, among other items, the status of the club and club activities for the prior year, a ballot with the nominated Board members for the December election and a membership form to return with payment. The Board authorized creating a membership mailing list, and covering the costs of distributing the mailing list (e.g., printing/copy services, labels, envelopes, stamps).

Movement to adjourn by Tom, seconded by Kelly.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.