

Minutes
Pentagon Amateur Radio Club
February 4, 2009

The meeting was called to order by club president Dr. Gene Kaiser at 12:02 PM.

The 12 club members in attendance were: Uldis Adamsons-N4TE, Bruce Bryant-AB8CI, Doug Donnell-KD4MD, Gene Kaiser-KI4BUI, Phil Kania-KJ4GYJ, Gary Sessums-KC5QCN, Hugh Katz-K3HU, John Miller-KE4JEM, Claude Hennessey-KG4TVN, Joseph Tock-K4RFS, Doug Lindsey-KB3HER, and Bob Lipp-W4LIP.

A motion was made by Mr. Phil Kania to approve the January 2009 meeting minutes as distributed to club members via e-mail. Mr. Doug Lindsey seconded the motion. The motion was approved by majority vote.

Dr. Gene Kaiser, along with Mr. Gary Sessums gave a report on operations conducted out of the PARC radio room during the presidential inauguration last month. PARC, along with Arlington Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) operated from 6:00 AM – 7:00 PM and conducted EmComm operations on Amateur, MARS, SHARES, and FEMA frequencies. An APCO P-25 VHF digital public safety radio with encryption was temporarily installed in the radio room for communicating with the Secret Service and other law enforcement agencies operating out of the Unified Command Center on the National Mall during inaugural events. Several secure telephone calls were made to Federal agencies during inaugural events to test using our newly installed Secure Telephone Equipment (STE).

Dr. Kaiser also reported on the meeting that he, Captain Rick Low, and Mr. Gary Sessums attended with the Assistant Secretary of Defense (OSD/NII) in late January. The possibility of OSD assistance with procuring DoD funding sources in order to provide COOP/COG communications support to DoD agencies looks promising. All parties involved in the meeting seemed optimistic that some type of funding sources could be arranged.

Dr. Kaiser also requested that everyone who has a club sponsored PNT building pass to send him an e-mail giving the expiration date of the badge so that he can arrange to have them renewed.

Mr. Mike Bartos has been asked to oversee the move of the PARC radio room to the new location. He will work with the PENREN moving staff as well as club volunteers to make sure that all goes well with the moving of equipment. A list of issues and concerns related to the station move were distributed to members present.

It was noted that the club has acquired the donation of a small refrigerator. This new addition to the club along with the current sofa, microwave oven, telephone, and coffee maker will create a more comfortable operating environment for club members during extended radio operations such as contests and emergency communications support.

Mr. Uldis Adamson distributed a draft copy of a proposed new PARC constitution and by-laws. A discussion ensued with many ideas and suggestions for a revised constitution. The pros and cons of incorporating the club with 501(c)(3) status were also discussed. The vote to adopt a new club constitution will be scheduled after revisions to the draft copy are finalized and distributed to club members for review.

The next PARC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday March 4, 2009 at 12:00 PM in 5B272.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:04 PM.