

Pentagon Amateur Radio Club

Meeting Minutes, 3 Jun 2026

Attendees:

Pentagon: Dennis Wilson KD4WGN, Hugh Katz K3HU, Steven Karty N5SK, Doug Donnell KD4MD, Tom Devine KQ4CUX, Claude Hennessey W4AT, Sean Gallagher K4KBK, Stefano Fonda K4IEW, Cynthia Kellams KJ4CLK, David Trachtenberg N9WWL

Zoom: Ron Startzel KB5LNC, Rae Ohlert N5VFR, Ed Ohlert KN4DKI, Jonathan Branker KJ4GYR, Phil Kania KJ4GYJ, Jack W4IJ, Dan North W5FJN, Richard Strait AL8AL, Karen Strait KD8DHJ, Emmett Price K3EP

The meeting was called to order and led by Ron (calling in) and Cynthia (on site). General purpose of the meeting was to discuss the way forward following the passing of Gary Sessums, SK, our ad hoc president for many years.

Cynthia has created a spreadsheet of members gathered from the membership book in the station. There are approximately 50 dues paying members. (work in progress)

The following are various items brought up for action:

Badge renewal – Ron has been in touch with Mr Cooper and will follow up (work in progress)

Field day – Joe Shaw is taking the lead. All members wishing to participate should reach out to Joe in person or via email. Ron will follow up with PFPA to ensure required paperwork has been completed. (work in progress)

Email list and website – Doug has access and will review the email list for currency and update the list and website as needed. Doug reported that there are currently over 200 email addresses on the list but there is no way to, from the mail server, associate the emails with names. (work in progress)

Trustee – Ron volunteered to be trustee for K4AF and the repeater, although details will have to be addressed. Sean will assist as he has recently gone through the process and knows the procedure. Cynthia also agreed to help. (open item)

Rae asked about taking an inventory – tabled until after Field Day

Claude will follow up on QSLs – there are some unanswered from the 2021 special event

Some discussion about a possible 9/11 and other special events – tabled until next meeting

Sean brought up the possibility of a Celebration of Life honoring Gary Sessums to be held at the Columbia Island Marina in concert with local amateur radio clubs, the Fairlington Social Club, and Shirlington Running Club. More to follow. Cynthia will act as a POC to gather photos of Gary for inclusion in the program. Send photos to her. (open item)

Eric Sessums, Gary's nephew, will be in NoVA for the week ahead to begin handling Gary's affairs.

There was a discussion about a dedication of the station (perhaps a plaque) to Gary & Gene Kaiser for their considerable contributions to the club. Open item for further discussion at a future time.(open item)

Upcoming we need to review by-laws and elect a new slate of officers. We will address at next meeting. (open item)

Hugh will work with Ron to update T-MARK. (open item)

Respectfully submitted,

Doug Donnell KD4MD