



# 2023 Quarter One Membership Meeting Minutes

January 24th, 2023 7:00 pm

*Sturtevant Police Department Training Room*

*2801 89<sup>th</sup> Street, Sturtevant, WI. 53177*

## I. Members present:

Call	First Name	Last Name
AB1Z	Warren	Miedema
AF9Q	Matt	Zajac
K9EVA	Ed	Ammendola
K9JRG	James	Griffin
K9RZL	Timothy	Vite
K9SO	Frederick	Glenn
K9WBT	Bruce	Taylor
K9WNG	Brad	Richardson
KA9KJE	Tom	Burger
KA9OIL	Dan	Miller
KB9SIG	Rick	Schaber
KC9JOB	Jeff	Whalin
KC9QV	Kenneth	Rugaber
KD1Z	Bill	Erdmann
KD9FGF	Sean	Marschke
KD9KHV	Bryan	Clemente
KD9SAW	Fredric	Sitarski
KD9SSY	Pierre	Porter
KD9WAL	Justin	Anderson
N9CGW	Cole	Weiss
N9ISP	Paul	Abernathy
N9OIG	Kevin	Drissel
N9PYA	Dwayne	Devore
N9SEB	Steven	Brown
N9XCK	Danny	Cerminara
N9XSJ	Steve	Miller
NP2I	Dave	Wyatt
W9GYC	Mike	Freitag
WB9COW	Robin	Mather
WB9ZKY	Gene	Haney
WD9BBE	Robert	Pasquale



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### II. Secretary's report: Matt AF9Q

- A. Approval of minutes from the last meeting held on October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022, as emailed to the membership with the November Newsletter. -

Motion for approval of the meeting minutes as previously published - N9SEB. Second - WB9COW. All in favour, none opposed..

### B. LRA Membership stats:

- a. There are 96 active members in the club
- b. So far 40 people have renewed their membership and 6 people have joined or re-joined the club.

Please welcome in no particular order: Stephanie Lichternauer - **KB9WHO**, Keith Lichternauer - **N9IPA**, Daniel Kundert - **WX9EMS**, Justin Anderson - **KD9WAL**, Scott Seymour - **KD9WFS** and Rick Schaber **KB9SIG**. Please say "Hi" when you hear them on the air. Thank you all for your support.

### C. Website.

- a. Working on the membership website where we can have content that is available only to the club members.
- b. The SKYWARN section will be created this week.

### III. Treasurer's report: Dave NP2I -

Report for calendar year 2022. Club is doing well financially.

**Income:** The GoFundMe campaign brought \$5542.35, two anonymous donors contributed four digit amounts. Big thanks and applause. Picnic. Bench donated by Jenn **KD9UET** and Pat **KD9NXG** was sold for \$224, big thanks to Jen and Pat for the donation. Total income was \$9325.00.

**Expenses:** Maintenance expenses \$14.00 for fuel to keep the batteries warm, \$25.00 to WE Energies for Franksville receive site rental, tower rental \$728.00 per year. Bank fees \$234.00 due to changing bank accounts, insurance policies \$446.00. Net income after expenses \$6869.00

**Assets:** Cash \$6954.00 Equipment \$6721.00 Total club assets: \$13676.00

Steve **N9SEB** raised the question whether we have adequate insurance. Dave **NP2I** responded that once inventory is completed the insurance policies will be reviewed and adjusted accordingly.

Dave **NP2I** offered the report to anyone interested.



Question was raised by Steve **N9SEB** whether the club received any income from Amazon Smile. Matt **AF9Q** explained that the Amazon Smile was not active for long enough to bring any kind of income.

Steve **N9SEB** raised a motion to approve Treasurer's report Warren **AB1Z** second, all in favour, none opposed.

#### IV. Technical Director report : Kevin **N9OIG**

Everything is working, the repeaters are working as expected.

#### V. Vice Presidents report: Fred **K9SO**

No Report, Fred calling members for any information on projects people are working to share in the newsletter, pictures are welcome.

Question on how to get a copy of the newsletter, Fred explained that he sends out email copy on the 1st or 2nd day of the month.

#### VI. Committee reports:

##### A. By-Laws - Steve **N9SEB**

Working hard at the bylaws with Joe. Reviewed bylaws, found some shortcomings. One of the committee members is a business attorney who pointed out some shortcomings in the current by-laws that are not meeting Wisconsin statutes for 501(c)3 corporations. The committee has looked at bylaws of similar organisations from all over the country and working with Joe found a way to adjust our bylaws to comply with the state law without making drastic changes. Final draft is going to be presented to the offices who can make recommendations. Once reviewed by the officers, the copy of the proposed by-laws will be made available for the members on the website along with the board's recommendation. Membership will vote on accepting the corrected by-laws at the next general membership meeting in April. Please keep in mind that a lot of compromises were made so the committee could come to a consensus on all issues even if the solutions weren't exactly what they envisioned.

Fred, **K9SO** - asked for clarification on the approval process for the new by-laws. Specifically the part that members will vote on the new by-laws regardless of board's recommendation. Steve, **N9SEB** explained that current



by-laws specify that the board provides recommendations to the membership whether to vote for the revised bylaws or not.

B. Skywarn – Bernie-**N9AZA**

Bernie will be working on the SKYWARN. Dwayne will be working with Bernie. Dwayne **N9PYA** will be working with Bernie **N9AZA** on setting up the SKYWARN program for LRA

C. Director Emeritus - Gene **WB9ZKY**, **Director Emeritus**.

Gene **WB9ZKY**, explained how LRA ended up with a great price for renting the Franksville site.

D. AllStar Committee Chair Report: Kevin - **N9OIG**

Kevin, **N9OIG** reported that there has not been a lot of activity on the AllStar VHF node. The AllStar UHF node that is running on Kevin's site has seen a lot of activity.

Dave, **NP2I** asked for a report of the repeater activity, not a digital node but overall repeater activity to see which repeaters are being used and how much. Kevin, **N9OIG** agreed to look if it is feasible to produce such a report.

Dan, **N9NXG** wanted to know whether we are promoting any nets on the digital node that is connected to the VHF repeater. Fred, **K9SO** and Kevin, **N9OIG**, explained that the current setup doesn't have the ability to allow for AllStar users to participate in the net that is held on a UHF repeater linked to the VHF repeater. Dan's point was to allow remote HAMs participation in the net as a way to increase the club membership.

VII. President's report: Dwayne **N9PYA**

Dwayne, **N9PYA** is working on getting access to the site on the Kenosha Hospital in order to inventory our equipment at the receiving site. Same for the Union Grove site.

VIII. Old Business

None



## IX. New Business

Proposal of putting AllStar on the UHF repeater. - **WB9COW**

Robin, **WB9COW** took a poll on how many AllStar users we have in the room, almost everybody. Robin explained that we are currently using the node and the site donated by Kevin **N9OIG**. Made a proposal to attach an AllStar node to the LRA's UHF repeater to eliminate certain delays. The equipment will be donated to the club by Ken **KC9QV** and there would not be any additional cost for the club. Robin asked for questions.

Steve **N9SEB**, asked a question if the AllStar linking is a reason why the courtesy beeps were removed from the repeater. Robin **WB9COW** explained that those were removed in effort to minimise the delays currently experienced by AllStar users when linking to the UHF repeater from Kevin's site. Once the AllStar node is permanently installed, this issue will go away. Steve asked for recommendation from the Technical Chairman, Kevin **N9OIG**.

Kevin, **N9OIG** stated that adding an AllStar node to our repeater will add a lot of flexibility in terms of improving current voting connections and possibly adding new receive sites.

Ken **KC9QV** has stated that adding an AllStar node allows people to access the repeater from the phone without using a radio. According to Ken, this is a huge benefit to people travelling or not being able to directly access the repeater over RF.

Fred **K9SO** has a concern that using AllStar will turn our repeater, and the organisation, into an internet chat room. Fred is of the opinion that the ability to access the repeater without a radio, takes away from the HAM radio experience.

Several other members spoke up, majority in favour of the AllStar bringing up examples and ideas how this would have a positive impact in the club.

Tom **KA9KJE** and later Steve **N9SEB**, postulated to separate the discussion between "Adding an AllStar node to the UHF repeater" and "Implementing AllStar as a receive site backbone". Current discussion focussed on "Adding AllStar node to the UHF repeater". "Implementing AllStar as a receive site backbone" will be considered separately at a later time.

Ken, **KC9QV** raised a motion to vote on the install AllStar Link directly on the UHF repeater.

Second by Bruce **K9WNG** by Fred **KD9SAW**.

Point of order raised by Fred, **K9SO**. Need clarification whether this is going to be a board decision or a membership decision. Ken, **KC9QV**, stated that according to the previous administration, this is a membership decision, followed by Robin, **WB9COW**, who stated that



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under current by-laws of the association, this is a membership decision. Fred asked Steve **N9SEB** for his opinion who concurred with Ken and Robin.

Dave, NP2I raised a concern that this issue was added to the agenda as a proposal as new business and should not be voted on at the same meeting. Asked

Discussion.

Vote taken all in favour with Fred **K9SO** opposing.

### X. Other Club announcements

#### A. **KA9OIL** – Dan Miller, Megacycle Club , QCWA ?

Racine Megacycle Club meetings have been moved from monthly to quarterly basis. Next meeting of the W9UDU club will take place on April 11th at Sealed Air YMCA facility.

Racine Megacycle Club Free Fest - August 12 2023

Lighthouse Run on June 17th. Volunteers needed. Start 7:30am. There will be a call for volunteers to help staff the communications at the race.

Chapter 162 QCWA

#### B. Tom - **KA9KJE** /Ed - **K9EVA** , RKARES

Tom, Glad that we are back on the air on third Wednesday

Looking forward to working together

Look for more information on RKARES at the

### XII. Adjournment

Steve **N9SEB** made a motion to adjourn seconded by **W9COW**. All in favour!

### XIII. Refreshments and/or Post meeting social activities