

ABARC Anchor Bay Amateur Radio Club **Minutes June 9, 2008**

7:30 PM Bill Platt Training Center, Gualala CA

CALL TO ORDER AND ATTENDANCE

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 by President Jack Haverty K3FIV. 22 people were in attendance at the beginning of the meeting.

APPROVAL OF JUNE 9, 2008 AGENDA

It was moved by Don KG6KLP and seconded by Donna KG6TOI that the agenda be approved as presented. The motion passed unanimously. Jack K3FIV requested that future agendas delete the graphic background to facilitate printing.

APPROVAL OF 2/11/08 MEETING MINUTES

On a motion made by Fred W6WTI seconded by Donna KG6TOI the meeting minutes as distributed via email and posted on the ABARC web site were approved unanimously.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Cathleen Crosby KG6YLW was presented with a plaque in appreciation for her dedicated service as the club Secretary during the 2007 calendar year.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Marcia KG6NHX reported that the club has \$3,056.77 in our account and that 90 members have paid 2008 dues. A question was raised regarding how the club funds are spent. The response was that we support the 147.825 repeater and the 146.610 repeater including paying a monthly phone bill for our auto-patch and a monthly service charge for the club web site. Ken KE6WC moved and Donna KG6TOI seconded that we approve the financial report. The motion passed unanimously.

BYLAWS REVISION

Dennis KI6HHA presented the proposed bylaws revision developed by a subcommittee composed of Don KG6KLP, Bob AA6VS, Fred W6WTI and Dennis KI6HHA. There was extensive discussion regarding the definition of a quorum, voting members, and net management. It was agreed that a quorum would be 20% of the total membership (presently that would be 18 people). In the event that a quorum was not present at a regularly scheduled meeting, items posted on the agenda could still be acted on by those present at the meeting, but no decisions could be made about any items not on the agenda that were added during the meeting. Only licensed operators who are members in good standing will be able to vote. Net management will be a shared responsibility of the club officers who will attempt to appoint a Net manager for the

year. These changes will be reflected in the new language included in the Bylaws revision which will be sent to all members via email prior to our September meeting. Final approval of the bylaws revision will be placed on the September 13 meeting agenda for action.

ACTIVITIES FIELD DAY JUNE 27, 28, AND 29

Ken, KE6WC outlined that the club needed about 10 people and a leader to coordinate this activity. Since only three people volunteered, it was concluded after discussion that we did not have sufficient interest in this activity to proceed so our club will not participate in field day in 2008. We will try again in 2009 to see if there is sufficient interest to participate.

FOURTH OF JULY POINT ARENA PARADE

Wayne KE6HVM sent an email to the club asking if ABARC would again consider providing communications for the Pt Arena Parade. After discussion Marcia KG6NHX, Don, KG6KLP, Bob, KG6HMT, Joost, KI6IVO, Cathleen KG6YLW and Jerry KG6YLV volunteered to work with Wayne. We will send an email to Wayne letting him know who has volunteered to help him.

ESTABLISHING CLUB INTEREST GROUPS

Jack, K3FIV announced that the ABARC officers held a planning meeting on April 30 and discussed establishing six sub-committees (Interest Groups) to promote member involvement and share some of the work to operate the club. Jack asked every member to look over the Interest Groups, select one or more that they would be willing to volunteer to help out with and to contact the Interest Group Leader. Following are the six Interest Groups, their function and the Leader name:

ADMINISTRATON

Leaders : Dennis KI6HHA and Marcia KG6NHX
Functions: Club records, minutes, constitution & bylaws, financial statements, asset inventory, keys, maintain membership database, member communications, email, net control assignments, club publicity, club election nominations.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Leader: Ken KE6WC
Functions: Coordinate License classes for new Hams and upgrades, new Ham recruitment, club activities

EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Leader: Jack K3FIV and Larry K6CQE
Functions: Emergency procedures, documents, logistics, planning, Communications Van, mobile operations, relationship with served agencies, research and interaction with other radio clubs and organizations

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Leader: Andy KI6ARA

Function: Maintain club website

MENTORING

Leader: Fred W6WTI

Function: Technical advice on equipment, resources and operations, coordinate Elmer presentations

REPEATER

Leader: Bob WA6M

Functions: Maintain club repeaters & equipment (147.825 & 146.610) including technical and operational issues

MEMBER SURVEY ON FUTURE CLUB DIRECTIONS

Jack K3FIV presented the results of the member survey distributed via email. He received responses from about 20 people. The mean scores for each of the 6 categories were: Technical 3.56; Mentor 3.69; Upgrade 2.31; Communications 2.0; Activities 3.19; Emergency 4.31. Based on the survey results, respondents were most interested in Emergency Communications training, drills, workshops.

COMMUNICATIONS AMONG CLUB MEMBERS

There was a lengthy discussion and numerous suggestions about club member communications. One suggestion was that club members be sure their radios are on to monitor the club repeaters. Another suggestion was that during the noon hour members who are interested engage in dialogue on the radio concerning topics of interest. There was also a suggestion to use the ABARC Yahoo Interest group on the Internet that has been established. There was mention about using our net for member communication, but it was concluded that because of the HF net, this probably wasn't a viable alternative. We will bring this topic back for further discussion at our next meeting.

NET PROXY CHECK INS

Ken, KE6WC expressed concerns about our current practice to allow Proxy Check Ins on the Emergency Net. This seems to reflect an emphasis on numbers rather than the primary purpose of maintaining an informed group of amateur operators who are ready to provide communications in time of need. To be consistent with this purpose it was moved by Lee N6MIV and seconded by Ken KE6WC that Net Proxy check ins will no longer be permitted effective immediately. Net control will now only check in operators who personally respond with their call sign in their own voice on one of the ABARC repeaters. After some discussion, this motion was approved unanimously.

REPEATER EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT

Ken, KE6WC indicated that the radio equipment for our 147.825 repeater is approximately 20+ years old and is not as reliable as it should be. The 146.610 repeater radios are even older in the range of 30+ years old. He urged the club to consider replacing this equipment. Bob WA6M, the technical support person was asked the

approximate cost and he stated about \$1200 per repeater. Marcia KG6NHX was concerned that replacing both repeaters at the same time might be too much of a financial burden for the club and suggested we replace one this year and the other one next year. Ken, KE6WC made this motion to replace the 147.825 repeater radio equipment this year at a cost not to exceed \$1500 and Jerry KG6YLV seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

There was subsequent discussion that when we do replace the Pt Arena Repeater Radios that we should consider changing the frequency from 146.610 to a different frequency and make the PL 103.5 to conform with Mendocino County. The reason is that Garberville has a repeater on 146.610 which sometimes can cause communication problems for operators north of Point Arena who want to communicate with Gualala. It was agreed that we should work with NARCC (Northern Amateur Relay Council of California) to try and obtain a different coordinated VHF frequency pair for this repeater next year when we replace our present equipment.

ARRL AFFILIATED CLUB

Fred W6WTI presented the advantages of making ABARC an ARRL affiliated club. In checking our membership roster, 42 ABARC members are currently ARRL members. In order to be an affiliated club, more than 50% of the club members need to belong to ARRL. We are presently 4 members short of that requirement. After brief discussion, Fred W6WTI moved that we pursue becoming an ARRL affiliated club and Donna KG6TOI seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

Due to the lateness of the hour, Jack K3FIV and Fred W6WTI recommended that our discussion about emergency communications be postponed to our next meeting and there was consensus of everyone present.

NEXT ABARC MEETING

Saturday September 13 was proposed for our next ABARC meeting. Larry K6CQE volunteered to ask Leighton and Alice Nelson if we could again meet at their home for a BBQ. (Larry contacted Alice on Tuesday June 10 and Alice agreed to host the club BBQ from 1:00 to 4:00 on Saturday September 13, 2008.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct, Jack K3FIV adjourned the meeting at 9:15 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Dennis Kelleher, KI6HHA
ABARC Secretary