**LRRA BUSINESS MEETING**

**9-25-18**

OFFICERS PRESENT: Clayton Ferry, N1VAU, President; Shawn Marcotte, KC1DNA Vice-President; Jane Greer, W2REX, Treasurer; Sarah Silk, Secretary

MEMBERS & GUESTS PRESENT: Sharie Cohen, K1TQ; Jim Robinton, N1CRZ; Dale Smith, KA5WHO; David Weiss, N1DOU; Bob Ness, KB1DLX; John Morrison, K1VPO and Fran Morrison; Ed O’Hearn, N1EO

**I. Call to Order**

Clayton Ferry, President, opened the meeting at 6:30PM at the Wolfeboro Community Center.

He explained that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss & compile necessary changes prior to filing the non-profit application. These changes will be distributed for approval by the members at the Annual Meeting.

**II. Bylaw Discussion:**

Treasurer, Jane Greer distributed copies of samples from other HAM Radio Clubs which have a 501©3 tax exempt designation in place. She briefly explained the process and the steps required. Small organizations (<$50,000) had not been required to file form 990 with the IRS prior to 2008. Much of her information was obtained from a CPA at NearFest. Sarah Silk had spoken with 2 attorneys who both advised a CPA’s services were more appropriate for filing. She had then spoken to 2 CPA’s, reported such, and awaits further instructions regarding next steps for an appointment.

Clayton explained that a banking change had brought to light a valid tax ID#, but filing had not been updated since 1996. All of the officers signing the paperwork at that time are deceased.

There was a discussion regarding the purpose of the Club as regards the 501©3 guidelines. Charitable, educational, and scientific were the most common used by other Clubs. There was consensus that the research portion for scientific might not be directly applicable. Providing community service in the form of public safety is demonstrated as LRRA is a component in July 4th parade (one of the largest in NH). Monitoring the Smith River Canoe Race enables quick reporting of any mishaps with constant contact along the race route. LRRA is a component in Wolfeboro’s Emergency Management Plan with Town Officials, Police and Fire Departments attending Field Day demonstrating emergency preparation.

Lessening the burdens of government and providing the repeater for public use also are components of public safety.

After a lengthy discussion the following was proposed (using a sample as a guide):

The Club shall operate as a not-for-profit Club and will be officially known as the “Lakes Region Repeater Association”: (herein referred to as LRRA). The objectives of the Club are:

A. To promote interest in, and the advancement of, amateur radio, and electronics in general.

B. To promote a good relationship between LRRA and the public through public service activities.

C. To help interested persons obtain an FCC Amateur Radio License and current Licensees to upgrade their licenses.

D. To participate in activities involving amateur radio.

E. To promote the skills required to provide emergency communications where necessary.

There was a brief discussion about sending a copy of the bylaws to the State of NH. Sarah noted that she belongs to several other 501©3 organizations that she believes had to send in an initial copy. Just an update of officers is needed every time there is a change on the board.

A Dissolution provision is a required section of the bylaws. Copies of samples were presented by Jane. A through discussion by all in attendance ensued with the following proposed wording:

Section 1. Termination of Operations:

In the event that the Executive Committee votes that the Club should be dissolved, the motion for dissolution must receive more than two-thirds vote of the current membership to pass.

Section 2. Disposition of Assets:

The Executive Committee shall handle the disbursement of all assets of the Club. After all financial liabilities are met, the remaining assets shall be donated to qualified 501©3 organizations.

Clayton advised the LRRA Bylaw revisions would be emailed to this group and the other members for the Annual Meeting.

**III. Other Business:**

There was a discussion with Ed O’Hearn, David Weiss, Shawn Marcotte, and Bob Ness regarding fusion radio and the repeater.

Clayton reviewed the budget with Jane as cost is unknown. It was felt an analysis should be done to determine the cost to the Club as the repeater is in FM mode and would need to be in auto mode. Ed believed it might be a zero dollar upgrade. With a motion from David Weiss and a second from Bob Ness, the motion was passed unanimously to investigate the cost

Clayton initiated a discussion about the Club spot at Nearfest. Historically, Dale Smith and Bob Carollo went on Thursday, established the Club presence at a specific location

raising the Club banner, having the Club table, and giving LRRA exposure as an organization. The Club paid the $60 fee with them utilizing the 2 passes for early entry.

Clayton made the motion with a second from David Weiss to issue $30 each to Shawn Marcotte and Dale Smith for the October 2018 Thursday night camping to secure the LRRA spot. The motion passed unanimously.

There were questions regarding annual dues – now $20, and when they were due. Clayton explained there is a notice to members, a reminder, and individual contacts after that to those that have not responded. Example: November 1st deadline – 30 day grace period, approximately Dec 31st removed from roster. With a motion from Dave and a second from Sheri Cohen it was voted unanimously to have the deadline be Nov 1st.

There was a question about the beginning and end of the fiscal year. Shawn believes the central NH group uses June. Jane asked about calendar year. Sarah noted that the state usually uses July 1-June 30 and suggested that be checked against 501©3 requirements.

Clayton announced that a 6M radio had been sold to Rick Zach for $40 and there are 4 left with the hopes of that 6M would be used more frequently.

With a motion from Bob Ness and a second from David Weiss, the meeting adjourned at 9 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah M Silk, LRRA Secretary

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