

Meeting Minutes
TSARC, Inc.
May 1, 2007

The Texas Southmost Amateur Radio Club, Inc., May 1, 2007 meeting was called to order by Rudy Monsevalles, president, at 6:30 p.m. at the First Community Bank, 787 South Sunshine Strip, Harlingen, Texas. There were 16 members and guests present. All officers were in attendance. George Salinas, director, was present; Charles Brabham and Russ Lamb, directors, were not in attendance.

MINUTES

Carolyn Ross, secretary, read the minutes of the April meeting. Pat Stotler moved to accept the minutes as read, seconded by Floyd Creamer and approved by member vote.

Carolyn advised she would not be able to take the minutes for the June, July, and August meetings as she would be out of town. Bob Raynor and Floyd Creamer volunteered to fill-in during her absence.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Steve Lepki read the Treasurer's report. Beginning balance of \$1850.46, income from Ralph Waddups \$6.00, bank charge of \$2.50; Balance \$1853.96. George Salinas questioned what the \$6.00 was for. Ralph Waddups said a fee allowance provides for test-givers to add up to \$4.00 to the testing fee to cover expenses. Ralph said he added \$2.00 to each of the three persons testing for a total of \$6.00. Bob Raynor moved that the report be accepted, Jodie Law seconded. The Treasurer's Report was approved and accepted as read.

CORRESPONDENCE

Jodie Law reported that there was no incoming correspondence for the month. Jodie said she has checked and verified that all club licenses are up to date. She said she had filed the appropriate non-profit certification with the State.

OLD BUSINESS

Field Day

Floyd Creamer spoke regarding Field Day. He said that he had observed the vacant lot next to the Elks Club, which had been suggested as a location for Field Day, was used daily by approximately 20 to 30 children playing ball. He was concerned about a conflict when requesting use of the lot for Field Day. Nonetheless, at the next Elks meeting (Monday, May 7) he will request permission for TSARC, Inc. to use the lot for Field Day. He said approval will require a committee vote because of the liability involved. Floyd extended an invitation for any TSARC, Inc. member to be present at the Elks meeting.

President Monsevalles said he had made contact with a representative of the Zachary Company who is working on nearby highway construction regarding the use of a bucket apparatus of theirs that he thinks we may be able to use in erecting the antennae for Field Day. He will follow-up on this.

George Salinas suggested that we ask the Zachary Company to operate the bucket, which should better satisfy any safety and liability concerns they may have. Also, he questioned if working on a Sunday would be a problem.

Bob Raynor said he has a portable antennae that we can use.

President Rudy asked if members are willing to spend the night. He said members could come and go, but should sign up for one to two hour shifts so that the radio might be up all night.

Jodie Law suggested that we set a time to be on site to help with the antennae and radio set-up so that all will be ready by twelve o'clock.

Bob Raynor said he will make log sheets; Rudy will bring his laptop; Bob Raynor said he has a new awning he will bring; Rudy has tents/cots/camping equipment he can bring. Rudy said bring whatever you need to be comfortable.

President Monsevalles asked about the club banner; Jodie Law will look into it.

Patricia (Shadow) Raney said we should be able to get publicity by contacting television stations who have the community calendar announcements, and also send a PSA to radio station K-TEX. This should be done at least two weeks before the event.

There was discussion about asking Brian Hale to come; perhaps his station could provide television coverage.

Rudy asked that members come to the next meeting prepared to tie down the Field Day location, and have back-ups in mind—maybe Bob Raynor's backyard, George Salinas' or Ralph Waddups' yard.

Ralph Waddups said Dixieland Park might be available. Discussion followed regarding getting City approval and needing a permit.

Floyd Creamer said we'd need a portable toilet – Steve Lepki said he thought the cost would be about \$60 per day.

President Monsevalles asked for a volunteer to act as Field Day Coordinator. Bob Raynor volunteered. He will coordinate with others to make sure necessary items will be provided at Field Day. This includes—but is not limited to—radios and back-ups, tents, power plants, camping equipment, toilet, tables, ice chests, generator, and coffee pot. Each member should bring his/her own chair and other items he/she may need or want.

TSARC, Inc. Web Site

Floyd Creamer said the last four items he provided to the webmaster were not posted to the club website. He said the last entry he noted was the January meeting minutes. Members agreed that the website should be kept current. Discussion followed. Steve Lepki, Treasurer, said that on May 4, 2004, TSARC, Inc. check number 1002 was issued to Charles Brabham to pay for the website; no other checks have been issued since that time.

Floyd Creamer made a motion that -- "TSARC, Inc. appoint a new webmaster and that the webmaster be appointed by the president." The motion was seconded by Pat Stotler. Discussion followed. Motion carried. President Monsevalles asked for a volunteer to act as webmaster – Bob Raynor volunteered.

NEW BUSINESS

Percy Marchbanks is our newest TSARC, Inc. member, having joined today.

Bob Raynor proposed that TSARC, Inc. get involved in the Jamboree-On-The-Air (JOTA) during the weekend of 19, 20 and 21 October 2007. The JOTA is an annual event in

which about 500,000 Scouts and Guides all over the world make contacts with each other by means of amateur radio. Bob would like us to set-up to be able to participate in this event. Discussion will continue at a later date.

Pat Stotler asked that we consider attending the Dayton, Ohio Ham Fest next year as a group by renting a tour bus from Go With Jo. Pat said she'd drive. She said we could get a 50 passenger bus with a restroom, or a 28 passenger bus that will stop every two hours. She suggested we might combine with other clubs to get the larger bus. If we decide to go, we'll need to make reservations soon as hotels in the area fill-up early.

Bob Ross explained about the club database he is preparing that will track membership and enable him to provide a club roster to members. He may be contacting members asking for additional information.

Floyd Creamer said Charro (Brownsville Ham Group) invited our club members to a party at TexPax next Saturday, May 12.

Louis Petit, guest, was introduced by Shadow. Louis said he is with the US Army out of Galveston and builds communications systems. He has been working with David Woolweaver on his repeaters.

Floyd Creamer invited all members to a picnic. Said he has plenty of beer, so come on over. He said we can look at his new ham shack – thanks to Ralph Waddups for his help.

George Salinas moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Ross
Secretary, TSARC, Inc.