



St. Augustine Amateur Radio Society

MEETING MINUTES (DRAFT)

October 3, 2023

Regular meeting at the NFRA Conference Center

John Albertson AK4N
Dave Berman WA2PAY
Steve Dove W3EEE
Jack Ernissee K4KSW
Eric Hokansson WA1YXV
Leo Kim KQ4HWF
Ron Morgan KM4AC
Kevin Pelligrino KM4PHI
Clint Porter KC4LOV
Mike Randazzo KO4PDI
Rick Reuther W2BFD
Aaron Richmond KQ4FFR

Kyle Richmond KA1FKR
Larry Sapp WD8SEL
Bob Sileo N2PE
Frank Sileo N1PE
Larry Slight W4KTJ
Jason Smith K4LHS
Diane Rabideau-Wise WA4ZDQ
Franco Venturi K4VZ
Linda Visman KN4KJC
Richard Visman NN2T
Richard Wallace KG6YEM
Allen Wyatt W4YO

Business portion of the Meeting

- 1) Bob Sileo called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm ET.
- 2) Bob led the pledge to the US flag.
- 3) New member recognition and Upgrades: – Jason Smith was acknowledged to have received his call sign K4LHS.
- 4) Approval of September 2023 meeting minutes
Allen Wyatt distributed the draft minutes via email on 9/3/2023.
Clint Porter moved to approve the minutes as written.
Jack Ernissee seconded the motion.
Motion carried by unanimous vote of the members present.
- 5) Treasurer's report. Kevin reported that with expenses paid, there is just under \$7000 in the account not counting the cash used for change at the meetings (abt \$60).
Allen Wyatt moved to approve the report as presented.
Richard Wallace seconded the motion.
Motion carried by unanimous vote of the members present.
- 6) Discussion - Bob mentioned that there is an interest sheet at sign-in for ordering "Ed Fong antennas. A good deal and it would show support and appreciation for the excellent presentation given by Mr. Fong during last month's meeting.
- 7) This month's events. .Bob reminded everyone of the weekly lunches and the October 28 breakfast.
- 8) Next Operating Event:

- a) Linda Visman confirmed that the local counsel would not be having a JOTA event at Camp Shands this year
- b) Winter Field Day
 - i) January 27 & 28, 2024
 - ii) Location TBD (The School House at the Fairgrounds is not available.)
 - iii) Need an event chairperson. (We really do)
- 9) Other events in 2023. Testing and Monthly meetings, attendees were advised to look at their email and the website for up-to-date information. The Christmas party will be Dec 5 and likely at Brisky's BBQ
- 10) New Business.
 - a) At the November meeting there will be a call for nominations for officers for 2024.
 - b) Larry Slight mentioned that the fort (Castillo de San Marcos) would like to have us back for another operating event.
 - c) Mike Randazzo mentioned that the Melbourne Hamfest is coming up on October 13 and 14..
- 11) Next Meeting.
 - a) November 7, 2023
 - b) Looking for program suggestions.
 - c) Location TBD (Likely Virtual)
- 12) Adjournment: Franco Venturi moved to adjourn, and Ron Morgan seconded the motion.

The business portion of the meeting was adjourned at abt 6:49 pm ET.

PROGRAM: Richard Visman and Kevin Pellegrino presented **CQ POTA** a very professional program about Parks on the Air. The program included audio visuals and showed multiple ways that hams can participate. (The following are just some highlights picked up by the writer)

- POTA kind of began as NPOTA in 2016. This was a year long event celebrating the 100th anniversary of the National Park Service. This was jointly sponsored by the National Park Service and the ARRL.
- POTA began in 2018 and is an informal activator sponsored by individuals who maintain websites and databases.
- Activations: To activate a park, you must make at least 10 unique contacts from inside the park exchanging at least your callsign and signal report. The park name or ID number is also desirable but not required. The ten contacts must be on a single **UTC** calendar day.
- Chaser/Hunter: Hams may also make POTA contacts from their own easy chair in the cool comfort of their home shack.
- Park to Park: A bit like an activation but the park numbers must be included in the exchange.
- WARC bands are acceptable as POTA is not a formal contest.
- To have your stats show up online you need to register at www.POTA.app or www.parksontheair.com. (The writer did not get the difference between the two.)