

Active Amateurs Radio Group - General Meeting (11/21/2024)

Quick recap

The Active Amateurs Radio Group discussed their progress, future plans, and membership status, with a focus on establishing a not-for-profit status and growing their membership. The group also discussed the formation of committees, the importance of culture and positivity, and the need for cross-pollination between different clubs. Lastly, the conversation ended with discussions on upcoming activities, the importance of a strong, reliable system, and the introduction of the two clubs to each other.

Next steps

- Howard and Mark to work on establishing a bank account for the club.
- Howard - Facebook post about the December monthly get-together being moved to the 15th.
- Glenn to update the website with finalized constitution and bylaws documents.
- Howard to coordinate with interested members about visiting the National Weather Service event starting November 24th at 2 PM.
- Board members to finalize committee formations and assign members to committees.
- Rick to investigate options for tying the two repeaters together in analog mode.

Summary

Zoom Technical Troubleshooting and Setup

The meeting begins with technical troubleshooting to ensure everyone can see and hear properly on Zoom. Glenn (W2ADX) explains how to use Zoom features like raising a hand to ask a question. Howard (KO4PGD) mentions that the meeting is recorded and an automated summary of the meeting will be created.

Active Amateurs Radio Group Update

In the meeting, Howard Germroth, the newly appointed president of the Active Amateurs Radio Group, discussed the group's progress and future plans. He highlighted that the group is officially recognized by the State of South Carolina and has around 35 to 40 members with about 6 to 7 pending. He also mentioned that the group is working on obtaining insurance and growing its membership. Howard outlined the plan to move forward with the group, including the appointment of five officers and several at-large board members. He also mentioned that there will be elections once the group reaches 100 members. Glenn W2ADX then provided a report on the group's membership status, stating that they currently have 31 active members and 6 pending votes.

Club Foundation Progress and Website

W2ADX discussed the progress of the club's foundation, including the acquisition of the KK4ZBE call sign, the overhaul of the existing website, and the establishment of a fully functional membership site and email system. He also mentioned the club's not-for-profit status and its pending IRS designation. W2ADX demonstrated the club's website, highlighting its features such as the constitution, bylaws, and subject matter experts. He also conducted an electronic vote on new members, which was successfully completed with the exception of one member who was unable to participate.

New members

The membership had an electronic vote and there were six candidates to become members of the club and all were approved by the membership as a result of the electronic vote.

New members:

- KQ4DYV - Chris Hochreiter - Laurens, SC
- KQ4YSH - Jeremy Barclay - Moncks Corner, SC
- KO4AFL - Steve Anderjack - President Trident Amateur Radio Club - GOOSE CREEK, SC
- WA2NBG - Ray Mustafa - Mt. Pleasant, SC
- KO4APF - Greg Miller - MOUNT PLEASANT, SC
- KD4VEU - Donnie Britt - NORTH CHARLESTON, SC

Nonprofit Status, Treasurer's Report, and Donations

In the meeting, W2ADX discussed the process of accepting new members and the need for a treasurer's report. KK4NNY, the treasurer, reported that they had received an email from the State of South Carolina confirming their status as a nonprofit corporation, but they still needed to submit an application to the IRS. He also mentioned that they had received \$235 in capital contributions and \$55 in income, totaling \$290. The treasurer also mentioned that they needed to raise more cash before they could submit the application to the IRS. W2ADX and KO4PGD discussed the possibility of establishing a bank account once they have an EIN number. KK4NNY emphasized the importance of structuring their constitution and bylaws to appease the IRS and ensure tax-deductible donations. W2ADX asked about the possibility of making a donation without it being tax-deductible, to which KK4NNY confirmed that it could be logged as a capital contribution.

Active Amateur Radio Group Progress

In the meeting, KO4PGD led the discussion, with contributions from KK4WBT, W2ADX, and KK4MSA/KQ4WOG. The main topics discussed were the progress of the Active Amateur Radio Group, the formation of committees, and the future direction of the group. KK4WBT praised the efforts of the team, particularly Glenn, Justin, and Mark, for their work in building a real club with real ideas. The team also discussed the formation of committees, with four proposed: technical, education, events, and emergency communications. However, no decisions were made on who would lead these committees. The conversation ended with a discussion on the membership committee, with KK4MSA/KQ4WOG expressing uncertainty about who should lead it due to his changing situation.

Ham Radio Group's History and Future

The meeting discussed the history of a local ham radio group, their emergency response efforts, and their plans for future activities. The group's founder, KK4MSA, recounted his journey from being excluded from other repeaters to forming their own, the 300, which has become a reliable resource for emergency communications. The group's efforts have been recognized by the National Weather Service and other organizations. The meeting also touched on the formation of committees and upcoming activities, including a visit to the National Weather Service's annual event. Towards the end, W2ADX proposed a series of Zoom meetings on the use of artificial intelligence in ham radio.

Building Strong Culture and Expertise

In the meeting, N4OBR discussed the importance of culture and positivity in their group, emphasizing the need for a strong, positive culture to drive their projects forward. W2ADX and KO4PGD agreed, highlighting the group's technical expertise and the importance of cross-

pollination between different clubs. KF5CJG shared his experiences with the D-Star repeater and the team effort involved in its development. W2ADX stressed the importance of leaning on other club members for support and expertise. KK4MA discussed his involvement with the Sumter Club and his goal to introduce the two clubs to each other. KK4B expressed his appreciation for the group's dedication and reliability, emphasizing the importance of having a strong, reliable system in place. The conversation ended with W2ADX thanking everyone for their participation and encouraging them to visit the website for updates.

START: 19:15 – END 20:31