

Minutes-January 18, 2024, General Meeting

By Jim Gifford N8KET, Secretary

Executive Committee Members Present

President: Ray Hitt N8VMX, Newsletter

Vice President: Jim Totten WA8HUB, Lunch Bunch

Treasurer: John Westerkamp W8LRJ, Communications Center

Secretary: Jim Gifford N8KET

Sr. Director: Jim Lusk KC8EFD, Clubhouse

Jr. Director: Bob French AC8ZU, POTA, Tech Night

Functional Coordinators Present:

Paul Sharp WS8R, Education, Flex Users Group

Tink Siwecki KD8NUA, Hospitality and Library

Executive Committee Members Absent

NA

At 7:30pm, President Ray Hitt N8VMX led attendees in the pledge of allegiance.

Agenda Item 1. Ray Hitt Presentation on Raspberry Pi-5

Ray Hitt gave a detailed talk on Raspberry Pi and spoke to the following areas:

General History

- What's New?
- What's Better?
- Amateur Radio Use
- Timeline of Raspberry Pi

Models

- Model B – 2012
- Pi-2 – 2015
- Pi-3 – 2016
- Pi-3B+ - 2018
- Pi-4 Mod B - 2019
- Pi-5 - 2023

Other Styles

- Pi-Zero – 2015
- Pi-Zero W – 2017
- Pi-Pico – 2021
- Pi-Zero ZW - 2022
- Pi-Pico W – 2023

Technical Evolution

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What is New?

- Two to three times faster
 - Custom I/O
 - On-board fan connector
 - Power button on the board
 - Real-time clock
 - PCI express connector
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What is Better and What is Worse?

- Hitt described various aspects including speed. Multiple applications, and video smoothness.
 - Some drawbacks may include power consumption where it pushes the limits of some USB-C cables. He also described how this Raspberry Pi-5 runs in a degraded mode with lower power supplies. Hitt spoke about using Linux and the new Debian 12 (Bookworm).
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Work-Arounds

- Buck Converter
 - Alternative to other power supplies
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Impact on Ham Radio

- FLRig
 - FLDigi
 - GPSD
 - NTP
 - WSJTX
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Conclusion

- Huge increase in performance
 - Need to research what other users are doing
 - Not all applications need this much performance ability
 - Do not discard your older Raspberry Pi's
 - Prepare to wait a longer period to receive once ordered because of supply issues
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Agenda Item 2. Introduction of Members and Introduction of New Officers

Ray Hitt then welcomed our members and guests and recognized new hams and upgrades. Jim Totten WA8HUB welcomed the new board as elected in the December 2023 meeting:

Ray Hitt – President N8VMX

Jim Totten – Vice President WA8HUB

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Treasurer – John Westerkamp W8LRJ

Secretary – Jim Gifford KD8APT

Junior Director - Bob French AC8ZU

(Note: The Senior Director, Jim Lusk KC8EFD, automatically moved up from being Junior Director in 2023.)

Agenda Item 3. Minutes

Jim Gifford N8KET emailed the minutes from the December meeting to members.

Glenn Rodgers W18O moved we accept the minutes as written; Ken Gunton W8ASA seconded. Passed.

Agenda Item 4. Treasurer's Report

John Westerkamp W8LRJ stated we have had about 72% of dues paid so far. About 40 people still need to remit dues money. He said it is payable until March 1 in order to have a member's name in the directory.

Westerkamp said that the main payout in the last month was Spectrum. Following is the text of an email Westerkamp sent out just before the meeting:

"We have received several more dues payments this month, but the trend is slowing down significantly. We are at 72% of our membership paid, but are still looking for dues from 43 other members. Hopefully this will pick up over the next month as all dues are payable by March 1.

Expenses included the usual Spectrum Internet and a couple of small office expenses as well as a gift card for Dan Kinney. Our balance as of January 18, 2024, is \$10,327.63."

Thanks!

John Westerkamp, W8LRJ

Treasurer

Fund	31-Dec-23	Income	Expenses	31-Jan-24
General	\$2,531.83	\$332.00	\$249.71	\$2,614.12
Comm center	\$1,586.22	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,586.22
Refreshments	\$717.90	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$717.90
Repeater	\$319.53	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$319.53
All Liquid Funds	\$5,155.48	\$332.00	\$249.71	\$5,237.77
6 Month CD	\$5,089.86	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,089.86
ALL FUNDS	\$10,245.34	\$332.00	\$249.71	\$10,327.63

Ken Gunton moved we accept the report; Greg Goffe N8DRG seconded. Passed.

Agenda Item 5. Communications Center

John Westerkamp said that the Spectrum modem had been removed at the repeater site, and we currently do not have digital capabilities, All Star, etc. Westerkamp will examine the site further when the weather warms.

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Westerkamp announced that the following Saturday, January 20, would be the Ohio QSO Party at the clubhouse. He said it would be especially good for new hams to attend and use HF.

Agenda Item 6. Coordinators

Tink Siwecki KD8NUA announced the next BARC Movie Night would be held January 25 and show, "Adventures in Babysitting." She asked members to pass along any suggestions for future movies.

Paul Sharp WS8R praised the net controllers on the Sunday Night BARC Net. Sharp, Education Coordinator, announced that Bob French AC8ZU is taking over as Tech Night Coordinator. Sharp said the following are topics being discussed for the coming year:

- Antenna Analyzers
- Soldering
- Advanced Soldering
- Understanding Digital Modes
- How to Tie Knots
- Using BARC Clubhouse Radios and Patch Panel
- Grounding and Bonding
- Antennas
- Tour of the Antennas on the Roof
- All Star and Echo Link
- And any others

Jim Totten announced the next BARC Lunch Bunch location.

Bob French told attendees about the upcoming Tech Night on the following Wednesday where Tim Procnar N8NQH will compare antenna characteristics. All Tech Nights will be the last Wednesday of the month.

Glenn Rodgers announced Winter Field Day, which will be held at the Paw Paw shelter at Hills and Dales Park on Saturday January 27 with setup starting at noon.

Ken Gunton spoke about the BARC auction to be held at the February general meeting.

Sterling Slone KE8OYJ moved we close the meeting; Jim Lusk KC8EFD seconded. Passed.

Meeting closed at about 8:35pm.