

Minutes-November 16, 2023, General Meeting

By Jim Gifford KD8APT, Secretary

Executive Committee Members Present

President: Ray Hitt N8VMX, Newsletter

Vice President: Glenn Rodgers KE8LZD, Greeter, Shack Tours

Treasurer: John Westerkamp W8LRJ, Communications Center

Secretary: Jim Gifford KD8APT

Jr. Director: Jim Lusk KC8EFD, Clubhouse

Sr. Director: Don Parker KB8PSL, Public Service (via Zoom)

Functional Coordinators Present:

Jim Totten WA8HUB, BARC Lunch Bunch

Paul Sharp WS8R, Education, Flex Users Group

Tink Siwecki KD8NUA, Hospitality and Library

Tom McClory KE8FWZ, Youth

Executive Committee Members Absent

At 7:00pm, President Ray Hitt N8VMX led attendees in the pledge of allegiance. Hitt then welcomed our members and guests and recognized new hams and upgrades.

Agenda Item 1. Chuck E. Gelm Presentation on MESH networks

Chuck Gelm NC8Q presented an in-depth talk on the MESH network. He said these are commercial-grade, outdoor-rated devices that a service provider would use to bring service to a rural area or to a campus. The devices cost about \$50 to \$150. Gelm demonstrated on the map how the devices are linked, starting at the BARC clubhouse, to John Westerkamp W8LRJ's house, to Miami Valley Hospital South. Specific items he described were:

- Total nodes and devices
- Winlink stations
- PBX (Public Branch Exchange) telephone service, including Voice over Internet Protocol (VOIP)
- White pages telephone directory set up among local operators
- Great Lakes Division Hamshack Hotline Directory
- John Westerkamp said these are amateur radio frequencies; Gelm said that these are controlled locally in much the same way that repeater frequencies are controlled
- Supported devices
- Coverage – network map, including radio frequency openings and internet paths
- Hosts and host names and locations
- Active participants with Amateur Radio Emergency Data Network (AREDN) devices
- NC8Q-ADSB
- IperfSpeed
- NC8Q Solar Power System
- Local WX
- Servers

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- Connections nationwide
- Sending messages over packet radio system
- Winlink
- ICS Forms
- Chat rooms
- Miami Valley Microwave Association
- Airplane mapper
- Teamtalk
- Audio/Video file sharing service
- Supernodes

He displayed a map of the area and described how the MESH system works

Also described were AREDN Supernode links, voice over IP, and the devices participants used to communicate.

His presentation was well received by attendees.

Agenda Item 2. Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes were distributed via email to the membership. Ken Gunton W8ASA moved we accept as written; Glenn Rodgers KE8LZD seconded. Passed.

Agenda Item 3. Treasurer's Report

John Westerkamp said that more than 20% of 2024 dues have been paid. He described a couple ways to remit payment. The financial report that was emailed earlier is found below:

"So far, November income has again outpaced expenses as we begin to see more 2024 dues payments, over \$240 so far. More than 20% of our membership has already renewed for next year. Remember, if you are using PayPal, to pay via "Friends and Family" so BARC is not charged a business fee. Expenses were \$109.98 for Spectrum Internet. Our balance as of the November Membership meeting is \$9477.80.

Attached is the proposed 2024 Budget for approval at the Membership Meeting. Money was moved last year for the rooftop antenna maintenance and installation of the R9. The R9 installation has been completed and we will likely hold off on further rooftop work until the spring."

Thanks!

John Westerkamp, W8LRJ
Treasurer

Fund	31-Oct-23	Income	Expenses	30-Nov-23
General	\$1,636.73	\$240.55	\$109.98	\$1,767.30
Comm center	\$1,586.22	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,586.22
Refreshments	\$757.58	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$757.58

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Repeater	\$319.53	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$319.53
All Liquid Funds	\$4,300.06	\$240.55	\$109.98	\$4,430.63
6 Month CD	\$5,047.17	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,047.17
ALL FUNDS	\$9,347.23	\$240.55	\$109.98	\$9,477.80

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Jim Totten WA8HUB moved we accept the report; Joe Muchnij N8QOD seconded. Passed.

Agenda Item 4. 2024 Budget

Westerkamp then presented the 2024 budget. He described setting up a base budget with 100 members and their related dues as income as the basis for this baseline. He then listed the normal club expenses. Westerkamp further explained needs for future expenditures, including antennas on the roof, station grounding, and related polyphasers. The 2024 Budget is attached to the minutes email.

Paul Sharp WS8R moved we accept the 2024 Budget; Glenn Rodgers KE8LZD seconded. Passed.

Agenda Item 5. Nominating Committee

Jim Totten, Chair of the Nominating Committee, presented the following slate to the attendees for the election in December:

Ray Hitt – President N8VMX
Jim Totten – Vice President WA8HUB
Treasurer – John Westerkamp W8LRJ
Secretary – Jim Gifford KD8APT
Junior Trustee - Bob French AC8ZU

No additional nominations were received from the floor, so the nominations are thereby closed.

Agenda Item 6. Coordinators

Tim Procuniar N8NQH said the last class of the BAR (Build a Repeater) would be held November 20. Procuniar described the ongoing process of obtaining permission from the repeater council for using the frequency pair.

Jim Gifford said he and Ray Hitt are still trying to ascertain prices on club shirts, sweatshirts, and hats.

Tink Siwecki KD8NUA said that movie night would resume in January.

Jim Totten said that the last BARC Lunch Bunch of 2023 would be held the following week. They will start again in January. He asked attendees to let him know if they prefer different days of the week to hold the lunches.

Ken Gunton moved for adjournment; Jim Lusk seconded; passed.

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Meeting closed at about 8:26pm.