

South Baldwin Amateur Radio Club (KI4ELU)

PO Box 491
Robertsdale, AL 36567

January 19, 2017

Minutes of the Regular Monthly Club Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 19:00 hours by President Bill Dionne. There were 19 members and 7 guests present.

Minutes of Previous Meeting:

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved as read.

Treasurer's Report:

The treasurer's report showed a balance in the checking account of \$3693.27 and a savings account balance of \$633.08.

VE Report:

Rich Lee reported that an amateur license testing session was held on January 12th. Sufficient testers were present to conduct testing; however there were no candidates. This is only the 2nd time since the club began conducting testing that this has happened.

Old Business:

Dave Hottel talked about his progress to install the D-star gateway on the repeater tower. Dave reported that the gateway had been made operational; however a software upgrade would be necessary for the Icom equipment. This software upgrade is being made available at no cost to clubs with a functioning node, but now that the internet access issue that precipitated installing the gateway has been resolved, the gateway is no longer needed. Therefore since our node is not functioning, there would be a cost for the software upgrade. So for the time being, the gateway has been de-commissioned. Dave also mentioned that a D-start presentation is being planned for a future club meeting.

New Business:

There was no new business.

Program:

Ron Thomas spoke briefly on the topic of establishing AREDN nodes in and around the Baldwin county area. He and Ray Sturch have been experimenting with creating a link from the Lake Forest Yacht club grounds to an antenna on top of the USA medical center hospital roof. More trials are planned.

SBARC president Bill Dionne gave an extended presentation on his vision of club activities for both near and long term. Bill spoke on the topics of AREND network establishment, club outreach to existing and potential hams, infrastructure tasks, public relations opportunities, and club programs of all types.

Good of the Club:

Robert Frye won the 50/50 drawing and donated the proceeds to the club repeater fund.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Joe McIntosh, K4JOM
Secretary