COLORADO QRP CLUB MINUTES

March 11, 2023 Via Zoom

1. President Richard J. Schneider ABØCD (CQC # 155) called the meeting to order at 18:13 UTC via Zoom. A total of 17 members/participants were present. (These included, but were not limited to; ABØCD, WBØJNR, KC9IH, NO2D, KEØCQE, KC9YL, N1ELK, WC7S, KØANS, NØCOT, KEØZAR, NØNMO, KFØUR, NFØJ, and N5ZN)
2. All those present were asked to introduce themselves, starting with WBØJNR (#007) explaining that he was one of the club’s founding members and that our 30th anniversary takes place next year! Roger also announced that our newest member is Ziyuan, BH1UZJ in China (#1,080)
3. The minutes from our last meeting are currently not available. These minutes may be missing because the secretary/treasurer wasn’t available for the January meeting. The president reminded all present that elections will take place during our May meeting and that there’s a need for more volunteers, especially a secretary. Emphasis was placed on the importance of maintaining good meeting minutes and other records due to our status as a nonprofit with the Colorado Secretary of State.
4. The treasurer (WBØJNR) reported an account balance of $1,987.34 but noted that there will be a number of expenses due this year for Zoom, P.O. Box rent, and filings with the Secretary of State and the FCC. Roger explained that he anticipates a large increase in Zoom fees and had also heard that the Postal Service is being challenged over steep increases in P.O. Box rental. Roger explained the need for the P.O. Box to conduct club business so as to maintain officer privacy, etc.
5. Dale, WC7S, provided a detailed QRP Fox Hunt report – mentioning that there were 36 new “pups” (new “hounds/operators”) on the 40 meter Fox Hunt with about half as many on 80 meters.
6. Considerable amount of discussion on the desire to meet in person again for regular meetings. Dan, KEØZAR, said he’ll check on venues but was concerned that it may be difficult to find a more central location. Dick confirmed that obtaining meeting space through the Denver Public Library is nearly impossible and that it’s difficult to obtain the same/consistent location through the Jefferson County Library system. There was also some mention of the possibility of using space at a local fire department.
7. Extended discussion about our annual Field Day operation at NØCOT's *Star Haven Observatory and IAAS Research Facility* in Strasburg, Colorado. A note of thanks and appreciation for Jim offering his fine location for our use again this year. Additional discussion about possible repairs to the COW (cellular tower on wheels that was damaged last year by wind – the beam it supported remain undamaged). Everyone invited to join the event in any capacity – operating, putting the station and antennas together, socializing, etc.
8. A motion to eliminate the swap list was seconded and approved unanimously. The related discussion considered alternative lists and other ways to post swap items. It was also noted that swap list wasn’t used that much. NØNMO noted that he was the founder of our swap list but had no problem with eliminating it.
9. A motion to expand the bands and modes that our three contests take place on was seconded and approved unanimously. The related discussion clarified that the expansion will be to 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 10, 6, 2, 0.7 meter bands. All modes will be acceptable with the exception of digital. Dick will work to have our scoring take place at 3830scores.com
10. A motion to review the aforementioned change to our contests was seconded and approved (one abstention). The discussion was to review the efficacy of these changes and how participation will be increased for especially new amateur radio operators.
11. A motion to adjourn the formal portion of the meeting was seconded and approved at 19:10 UTC

The informal portion of the meeting lasted until 20:25 with lightning/grounding, QRP and DX operating presentations by WC7S, WBØJNR, and NO2D, respectively. ABØCD Discussed work arounds for antenna restrictions and limited antenna “farms.” There was other discussion about recent 10 meter band openings with NFØJ providing information on Ten-Ten International (He’s their current president!). KFØUR discussed two new product releases by QRPWorks – a Bluetooth interface for the IC 705 and a code reader interface for other equipment. KC9YL discussed the Long Island CW Club and their various forums and new members.

Respectively submitted,

Roger J. Wendell (WBØJNR, CQC # 007) - Secretary/Treasurer