

Minutes of the EIDX meeting January 20, 2017

1. Meeting called to order at 7:30 PM by our president Joe, K8OM. Twenty-one Hams were present.
2. Discussion of the newsletter, congrats to Bob, WØGXA for putting out a first-class effort.
3. Jim, NOØB achieved DXCC, now he is a full member, congratulations!
4. Rich, W3ACO gave the treasurers report. Was accepted.
5. DX funding discussion, there were no short term DXpeditions identified. The next one scheduled is KH1, as noted in the NG3K announced operations. The club decided not to make another contribution to 3YØZ at this time. There was a notice that someone will be going to San Felix, but no details were given.
6. Jeff Woods, WØODS joined our group, welcome Jeff.
7. Repeater committee, Al, KØVM reminded everyone that the reinstallation of the repeater is now scheduled for some time in February. We will need insurance to cover the effort. Joe, K8OM will pay the \$200 premium by credit card and the club will reimburse Joe. And we were all glad to see Al back with us! - Ed.
8. By law changes. The club voted to accept the new by-laws. This will provide for 4 officers, President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. The secretary position was not voted on, so Rich W3ACO will continue to perform secretary duties until the next meeting. A clarification regarding donations and use of the Tom Hise fund. A donation shall be initiated from the general fund, then matched up to 200% from the Tom Hise fund. Funds shall not be withdrawn ONLY from the Tom Hise fund.
9. Discussion of alternate venues for future meetings. Kirkwood now charges \$80.00 per meeting. Two alternates were discussed, first was the Ely library which would be free. A second alternative was suggested, use of St. Luke's Hospital (and Mercy Hospital) meeting rooms. Supposedly at no charge. St. Luke's has nearby free parking. Joe, K8OM will investigate further with assistance.
10. Web page discussion. The club now uses Iowa Solutions which has limitations and the web master cannot delete files. KØCF and NRØX will look at alternates. Also, costs for domain registration of EIDX.ORG were highly

variable. Iowa Solutions charges \$50.00 annually. It appears that there are lower registration fees offered by others. NRØX and KØCF will investigate.

11. EIDXА reflector. The club now uses mailman.qth.net, it is free but has severe limitations. Limited messaging size, no attachments allowed no pictures, etc. Google groups may offer better alternatives. K8OM and KØCF will investigate. We may also choose to do a beta test and use BOTH during a trial period to see which works better.
12. Club apparel: A Marion company, "Cotton Gallery" and Embedded Memories, W5HB, samples were shown. Both companies have the EIDXА logo. Individuals may order a wide selection of embroidered clothing from either one as desired.
13. Club QSL cards. Earlier cards were printed by Rockwell and U of Iowa. UX5UO has the EIDXА logo and can supply single sided full color cards at \$59.00 per thousand. Individuals can make up their own cards, single-sided, full color or two-sided and include the EIDXА logo as desired. Two sided cards, glossy full color front + B&W back are < \$80.00 and shipping from Ukraine is included. E-ham review shows 5.0/5.
14. Discussion of mentoring for new hams /members. If interested, please contact Joe, K8OM.
15. Recruiting new members. Joe, K8OM asks the club members to become active and recruit new members, especially younger ones as the average age of our club is 69!
16. Bob, WØGXA and Jeff, WØODS gave an excellent presentation on using chicken wire mesh for ground returns on an 80-meter vertical. Field testing showed that there was measurable improvement in far field gain compared to a number of ground radials. Great job fellas!

Submitted by Rich W3ACO