

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 2018 SMARC MEETING

The Smoky Mountain Amateur Radio Club met at 7:00 PM, 02/26/18 at the USW Union Hall with Randy, K4RDJ presiding.

There were 38 members and 2 visitors present.

The visitors were: Mike Cone, KB4RFI and Jeff Jennings KM4ITV

Randy explained that Bob, KK4XA who is the club president was ill and unable to lead the meeting.

Randy opened meeting by welcoming everyone and asked the visitors to be recognized. He also welcomed two new members, Jack Cutshaw WB4PLD and Jim Bradley AF4SP

Randy mentioned about the 50/50 drawing that the club holds at the meetings. He explained that the winner need not turn their winnings back to the club but to keep their share as was originally planned. However, he said the club staff discussed the drawing and allowing the club to vote on retaining the drawing or eliminating it. A show of hands was taken and it was determined to keep the drawings. Therefore next 50/50 drawing will be at the March meeting.

Randy gave the treasures report and told that the club had sufficient funds to pay off Kurt, KC4NX for the club repeater.

At the January meeting there was some discussion about the need for funds to support the National Park Service plans for upgrade of communication system. Tom, WB7TLW was able to obtain several of the forms that individuals can use to make a donation to the Friends of The Smokies which is running a campaign to obtain the funds. The forms were available to the members to take one and make an individual donation.

There was some discussion on how the club handles memorial gifts when a club member or immediate family of a club member passes. The club policy regarding a donation in behalf of the club has been to follow the guideline as written in the obituary in the paper.

A short break was taken for a few drinks of coffee or cokes and cookies prior to the program.

Randy told about the program for the evening to be presented by Jordan Webb, K4AVG. Jordan's program theme was the use of DMR technology for communications on Ham radio repeater. DMR stands for Digital Mobile Radio. The scheme involves integrating repeater systems and the internet.

After Jordan's program, He was available for questions and more discussion about DMR technology.

The meeting closed at 8:30 PM.