

East Pasco Amateur Radio Society, Inc  
General meeting Minutes  
Date 2022-01-08

1. Call to order

Duane Archibald called to order the general meeting of EPARS Inc at 8:00 AM on 2022-01-08 at the IHOP at 13100 US-301, Dade City, Florida

2. Roll call

A roll call was conducted. The following persons were present:

President: N4WDH Duane Archibald

Secretary: KB4WGA John LeMay

Members:

KK4LW Rick Lesquier

KG4GTN Jack Olson

KD4PUD Larry Fountain

KN4JXT Ron Leech

KN4WXD David Hink

3. Approval of minutes from last meeting

4. Announcements

- East Pasco Amateur Radio Society is now a not-for-profit Incorporation. New banking accounts and mailing addresses are being set up. We are not a 501c3.  
President: N4WDH Duane Archibald  
Vice President: AA4CB Chris Bloxsom  
Treasurer: N9GK0 Jack Suske  
Secretary: KB4WGA John LeMay
- Church Street Christmas was the best Ever. We had great club participation and we had over 300 children Talk to Santa. We gave out all our Santa QSL Cards and over 100 club flyers to interested parents. We also talked to several inactive hams and hopefully re-sparked their interest.
- Tampa Hamfest success! We will do it again next year! We had good club turnout and sold several items from the club table. We need to build a support to display our banner so that people can find our location from a distance.
- EPARS 2021 VE Program did well despite covid conflicts this past year: Test sessions were held from March to December. 26 VE tests were given last year. From that

we licensed 17 new operators, and 9 operators upgraded. Our next VE Session will be held on Tuesday January 11<sup>th</sup> at 3PM at the San Antonio Railroad Station.

- Everyone is invited to participate in the C4FM digital net on Thursday nights at 8:00 PM both repeaters are linked via the WCF room. If you can't "hear" the net on one repeater, try the other or if you have a wires X box just connect to the WCF room. We have been having 4 to 7 participants each week. It's a very informal net in a round table format.
- 2022 Winter Field Day will be January 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. We will be operating from the railroad station in San Antonio (same as Summer). We will set up on the covered deck outside and have a canopy out front. We will have stations inside, but we need to keep the conversations and gatherings outside. Operators found it distracting to have people inside when operating the station. We will be posting a list of needed items on Facebook and sending out an email. We will also have stations located outside for demonstrations for visitors.
  - 2022 Dues: It's time to pay our 2022 club membership dues. Because of increased operating expenses, starting January 1, 2022, dues will be increased from \$15 a year to \$20 per member and \$25 for families. New hams that pass the license test at EPARS sponsored VE test session will receive one year's free limited non-voting membership from EPARS. Dues Should be Paid by members by the end of January each year. If Dues were paid before December 31, 2021, the old \$15 a year applied. Remember you can pay by cash or check or online using PayPal. Paying online will cost you an extra dollar. You can find a link to this on our webpage: [http://eparsonline.org/public\\_html/eparsonline.org/](http://eparsonline.org/public_html/eparsonline.org/) Also, any financial gifts or donations to EPARS are always appreciated.
- 2021 EPARS Christmas Party was a festive event. We had a great turnout. All members received Coffee mugs with the new EPARS Logo on them. A drawing was held for a new DMR HT and the winner was Jack Olson KG4GTN!
- Our next meeting will be held Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022, at 8:00 AM There will be NO February meeting. The Orlando Hamcation will be February 11<sup>th</sup> 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> and that coincides with our normal meeting date many members will be going to the Orlando Hamfest.
- Repeater status: The New 146.880 repeater is in final testing. A better Duplexer and commercial grade VHF antenna have been donated to the club By N7KP Steve kometz. Steve has also donated two Motorola radios for linking and control of the station. The equipment is at his home and is being tested and made ready for installation at St. Leo

Sometime Late January or early February. The new repeater will be analog only, with several new features: higher power and better receiver sensitivity. The improvements should provide improved coverage. When the new repeater goes into operation the 443.600 will become the exclusive C4FM-Fusion Repeater. Both current repeaters are fully operational and seem to be performing as normal.

## 5. Adjournment

President: Duane Archibald adjourned the meeting at 8:50 AM

- After or meeting we had our usual Saturday morning breakfast at 9:00 AM

Minutes submitted by EPARS Secretary: KB4WGA John LeMay

Minutes approved by: President: N4WDH Duane Archibald