

San Benito County Amateur Radio Association

3226 Southside Road, Hollister, CA 95023 and online Zoom
Tuesday, Mar 4, 2025, 7pm

Meeting Agenda

Meeting call to order by Sara KJ6SAS at 7:01 AM.

Present: Benson Wong (K6BEN), Dave Hitch (KO6AVA), Sara Steiner (KJ6SAS), Tim Takeuchi (W6TST), Heatherly Takeuchi (N6HKT), Ron Ross (KD6ZXG), Mel Tolentino (KK6MES), Elise Scher (KI6PUO)

Business

1 Secretary's Report

Secretary requests to approve Feb's meeting minutes. Heatherly first. Tim seconds.

2 Treasurer's Report

Received money from ham cram, IBM payroll deductions, and ham cram expenses. Checking: Transferred \$7500 from savings to checking in preparation for investing with the Community Foundation.

3 Community Foundation for SBC Investment Account

Benson, Sara, and Ron meet on Feb. 20, 2025 with Tracy Taggart at the Community Foundation (CF). Here's how investing with the CF works: The CF takes our pool of money and adds it to their pool of money to invest. Normally, the CF takes full control of our money and we would need to have a written request to get it back. The reason is it is an endowment organization.

It, however, is possible to have a non-endowment type account. We would like in writing that we will have full control of the money, not the CF. We would like a written amendment, saying we are in control and able to draw the funds back to \$0. Tracy mentioned this is doable.

Tracy was on vacation this past week. Eventually, the Treasurer will work with Tracy to ensure all amendments are in place.

We are considering an option to state another non-profit ham club as beneficiary in case the SBCARA decides to dissolve. Or to leave the funds with the CF and let them do as they wish for the community.

4 Quartermaster's Report

No updates as the quartermaster was absent at this meeting.

5 DOC Upgrades/Maintenance/Repairs

No updates on carpeting.

Solar panels: Sara will be putting together a grant request. Suggested that Ron, Billy, and Tim be part of a committee to determine the scope of work, material, and equipment so that Sara has the info to include in the grant request. Grant deadline is in May.

Correction: The website for the Community Foundation for SBC does not show a grant cycle for 2025. Sara will confirm if there will be a funding opportunity.

6 Sea Otter Classic (Apr. 10 to 13)

Need 82 slots filled with volunteers. Currently, 62 of 82 are filled. People are dropping out at the last minute because of unexpected personal events (e.g., emergencies). 52 slots filled for 62 slots' worth of shifts.

7 ARES Program

The Kenwood D750 is replacing 710. This will be the new digital Kenwood radio to which Tim wants to upgrade the current radio in the DOC to.

The trailer will get a radio update. Ron found a VHF commercial radio that is both analog and NXDN digital. Tim will simplify the wiring, too (lessons learned from Field Day).

Kris Magano gave an OES update.

CERT class is full. Mel is one of the instructors.

SBCARA forum (next Tuesday). Talk about earthquakes, reporting earthquakes, and mapping in general (and finding earthquakes on the map).

8 N6SBC Net Control

Feb—Ron

Mar—Dave

Apr—Benson

May - Sara

Jun – Heatherly

9 Repeater Maintenance

No updates.

10 VE Update

May 3 will be the next ham cram and exam, here in Hollister at the Epicenter. Cram portion: 8 am to 3:30 pm, with the test following. Test only portion: 1 pm to 3 pm.

40 ham flyers to bring to CERT.

11 San Benito Radio Association Academy

Heatherly to refine curriculum with concrete steps on what chapters in the ARRL Ham Radio License Manual to read and what videos (by Dave Cassler) to watch. Helps people who don't want to cram to take the test. Or for people who took the ham cram to better understand the material.

12 ARISS (Amateur Radio International Space Station) Collaboration

Oakwood High School: To take place in late April. Heatherly has been talking to Dawn Lyle. Getting her students into Heatherly's ham classes. Some of the students went out on their own and got their technician licenses. They study online then go to Sunnyvale to take the test.

13 Swap Meet/BBQ

Date set for Jul. 19th for a BBQ and Swap meet. Potluck. We'll bring the hotdogs and hamburgers. Ask Ray Dzek if he would like to cook for us again.

14 Benito Link

Sara is coordinating with Benito Link on the best way to disseminate info in an emergency. Suggested to them to have a ham radio in their office for emergencies. Sara offered to give a presentation to them about ham radio.

15 Membership and Engagement

No updates.

16 Meeting Adjourned

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.