

National Capitol DX Association

Meeting Minutes

The September 15, 2018 meeting of the National Capitol DX Association was held at the combined NCDXA and PVRC annual Fowlfest at the Seneca Creek State Park in Gaithersburg, MD. The meeting was called to order at 13:30 by the President, Fred Laun, K3ZO. The following members and guests were in attendance.

Name	Call	Member
Jack Ference	W3KX	Yes
Dick Hayman	WN3R	Yes
Fred Laun	K3ZO	Yes
Phil Barsky	K3EW	Yes
Todd Ruby	WB2ZAB	Guest
Bud Governale	W3LL	Yes
Terry Hines	N4ZH	Yes
Zory Glazer	KB3VQC	Guest
Jim Locke	W3NRJ	Yes
Eric Rosenberg	W3DQ	Guest
Ike Lawler	W3IKE	Guest
Bob Teitel	W3IDT	Guest
Dave Garrand	N3DRL	Guest
Rico Berzinski	W3RCO	Guest
Rick Burich	K3YNY	Guest
Joel Knoblock	W3RFC	Guest
Gary Clark	WR3R	Guest
Ray Benedict	W8LYJ	Guest

President's Report: Fred opened the meeting by thanking Phil Barsky, K3EW, for arranging the meeting location and the logistics, Joel Knoblock, W3RFC, for covering the costs of the park pavilion and the liquor permit and Todd Ruby, WB2ZAB, for cooking all of the chicken. He then invited self-introductions.

Secretary's Report: The President made a motion to accept the minutes of the June meeting and seconded by Phil, K3EW. The vote to accept the minutes of the June 2018 meeting was unanimous.

Treasurer's Report: The opening balance as of 31 August was \$3,449.00. The treasurer reported receipts of \$55 and an expenditure of \$55 for the W3 QSL Bureau for a closing balance equal to the opening balance. There was a short discussion of upcoming DXpeditions that may be seeking donations. Other than the possibility of a Polish team going to Bouvet no other significant DXpeditions were noted.

League Report: The President reported the League has selected the new CEO, WB2ITX. The vote was 9 to 6 and therefore not unanimous. The new CEO has been a ham for a number of years but inactive until recently and therefore may not be familiar with all of the activities on the bands. There was an extensive discussion of the recent efforts by some League members to get greater insight into the League activities; the group's website is MYARRLVOICE. This has resulted in a number of new candidates for the Director's elections this year and the current directors now know the Board's activities are being closely monitored.

One of the League's on-going issues is membership. There are now over 700,000 licensed hams in the U.S. of which less than half have ever got on the air while the League membership is only approximately 150,000; a number that has remained flat for many years. The League no longer identifies itself as representing the majority of hams in the U.S.

Fred reported the YASME Foundation has added N6VI, who is an expert in emergency communications, as a director.

W3 QSL Bureau: K3EW, Phil Barsky, is the new "G" letter sorter for the Bureau. The handoff of all of the "I" letter material to Everett, WA3DVO has taken place. Fred reported in 2016 the Bureau handled approximately 120,000 cards whereas last year the amount was only 86,000. However, the emergence of FT-8 may have resulted in an increase in the number of cards received this year.

There was a lengthy discussion on the use of LOTW and the role it is supposed to play relative to paper QSLs. LOTW was envisioned as a means to relieve major contest stations from the burden of sending paper QSLs. The big contest stations

do not want to receive paper QSLs but at the same time they don't want to deny confirmation to an operator that needs a QSL for an award. LOTW was established to relieve contesters the burden of QSLing.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held on October 13 at noon but the location has not been identified. A small committee is looking at several potential venues.