

OMISS BOARD MEETING MINUTES

8 DEC 01

Called to order by President Greg/AE9W at 1855 UTC, December 8, 2001, 14.290 MHz.

Propagation: Outstanding

Present: AE9W, KL7IHK, KCØFRL, WA2QOM, WAØVZH, WA4ZOP, N5VTP, W5RL.

Excused:

1) Minutes from September board meeting reviewed - (October meeting cancelled due to Boy Scout JOTA weekend, and November meeting cancelled due to ARRL Phone Sweepstakes contest.) Minutes were e-mailed pre-board meeting.

Motion to accept minutes: KL7IHK

Second: WA2QOM

Motion carried.

2) Treasurer's report - Report was e-mailed pre-board meeting.

Motion to accept report: W5RL

Second: WA4ZOP

Motion carried.

3) Reports -

a. QSL Bureaus-Bruce/WA2DEU & Greg/AE9W: QSL volume has increased with the season. Mistakes of sending cards to wrong bureau still occurring, but somewhat slowing down. Perhaps expectations of getting this settled in only 6 months was overoptimistic. Still augmenting USPS with local trips, but not as frequent. Weather will soon have a slow-down on those trips as well. (Post board meeting note: The bureau may be possibly going back to a single-bureau again, thanks to Greg putting out a "feeler e-mail" for possible volunteers, and he has had 3 people come forward. This situation will be updated at next Board meeting.)

b. AWARDS PROGRAM REPORT - Dick/KL7IHK: Dick advised that the final report was published in the O-Missile newsletter. As of 12/8/01, there have been 25 Military Awards and 35 Endorsements issued. The Military Award program has skyrocketed and is doing very, very well.

c. ALL-BAND COORDINATOR REPORT - Darin/WA2QOM: KC2ATK is now the 17m coordinator, congratulations John.

160m net coordinator still needed, also 160m net may move up +3 to avoid other net in progress.

All other bands doing well, except 75m net. There are only 2 NCSs, hardly any check-ins, and the present net frequency is practically unusable. This has been passed on to the Advisory Committee with 4 suggested options to start with:

1. Start later...don't use daylight savings time.
2. Move to weekends only, and later
3. Move to winter only, or winter/weekends only.
4. Close the 75m net.

Any discussion about a late 75m net has been tabled until the regular 75m net is in order.

d. ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT - Warren/WA4ZOP: Nothing to report other than and east coast stations would like the 40m net to change times. Explained that either coast has troubles during parts of the year, and that "If it ain't broke, don't fix it." Patience was suggested.

e. PRESIDENT'S REPORT - Greg/AE9W: No October meeting held due to Boy Scout Jamboree. In light of missed meeting in 2 of the past 4 months due to unforeseen circumstances, Greg has been taking care of some Board of Directors matters via e-mail since we enjoy the luxury of having 100% Board members with e-mail capability. As a reassurance, this method is NOT to replace conventional on-air meetings, but more as a means to keep our heads above water on matter that could have been taken care of at previously missed meetings. For the record, during October, the following items were voted on by e-mail:

1. 17m net closing issue was unanimously tabled indefinitely. The membership spoke, and their message was in favor of remaining open. It was close for a while, but KC2ATK rallied support to save it.

2. AE9W requested that we approve a \$5 per month raise for the web page service upgrade. This will slow down N7DLS to work on searchable OMISS Rosters available to anyone with Internet access. The Board voted unanimously in favor of adding this upgrade and the \$5 it will cost per month.

3. AE9W proposed a new Award, the “Esprit de Military” Award. After online discussion and questions as to whether there would be enough interest, AE9W informed the group that there were approximately 20 members signed up for the Military Roster on the home page, and more who said they would submit when they get online next time.

4. AE9W proposed a new “Certificate of Appreciation” Award to be issued to those who serve the Society. It was pointed out by AE9W that we already have such an award, but only for the outgoing President. AE9W did not feel that this was appropriate, as the President is not the only one who contributes to making OMISS the successful family of amateur radio operators that it has grown into to date. It was unanimously voted by the Board to adopt the new award effective immediately. This award, like the Meritorius Service Award, is solely at the discretion of the OMISS Board of Directors.

5. Darin/WA2QOM requested to appoint John/KC2ATK as the new 17m Net Coordinator. KC2ATK was unanimously affirmed as the permanent coordinator by the OMISS Board of Directors.

6. It was requested by Dorothy/WAØVZH in her capacity of 40m Net Coordinator, through Darin/WA2QOM in his capacity as All-Band Coordinator, that the 40m late net frequency be changed from 7.250 to 7.2635 mHz due to the VERY strong Russian foreign broadcast on the former frequency. The 7.2635 frequency was monitored by the above 2 parties, AE9W, some others, and found to be free of other nets in operation or other strong foreign broadcast. The Board quickly voted unanimously in favor of changing the frequency per WAØVZH’s request.

4) Old Business - 17m net discussion: Tabled indefinitely in e-mail vote mentioned in President’s report. Net is now running great.

ARRL Net Directory: Still was not 100% corrected, but we are told they will make all corrections "this Fall".

5) New Business - Dick/KL7IHK informs that the membership dues remain at \$7.00, but no roster be provided at that price. Rather than have a rate hike, this new proposal would save OMISS on the rising costs of printing and postage. New members would have the option of paying a \$10.00 fee instead of the \$7.00 fee if they desire a roster. These rates become effective January 1, 2002. (Note: No voted required in accordance with the net By-laws.)

KL7IHK nominates Charlie/WØMWU for the Certificate of Appreciation Award for his duties in the past, for which he received to formal recognition. Charlie was a big contributor prior to his recent slow down for health and other reasons.

Motion: KL7IHK
Second: N5VTP
Motion carried.

WAØVZH nominates Doris/NI4U for the Certificate of Appreciation Award for her work in the early OMISS when things were falling apart at the seams. (Without Doris' efforts and dedication, we would not be holding an OMISS meeting today!)

Motion: WAØVZH
Second: WA2QOM
Motion carried.

KL7IHK nominates KC9NN for the Certificate of Appreciation for his years as Roster Chairman, as well as several other volunteer positions including 20m Net Coordinator.

Motion: KL7IHK
Second: W5RL
Motion carried.

OM OF THE YEAR PLAQUE: AE9W proposes that the plaque be an option between a plaque or “trophy style” desk displayed memento of suitable stature. When Greg purchased last year’s plaque, he noticed several other attractive options, most of which would not have to hang on a wall. Same price range, although plaques in general have also gone up in price. Suggest that the “OM of the Year” be contacted as to preference of plaque or trophy-style award.

Motion: None - Tabled until next meeting after all Board members have had a chance to think it over.

6) Next Board meeting: Jan. 12, 2002 at conclusion of 20m net. Aim for 2nd Saturday of month as a general rule unless holiday, contests, or special situation prohibits.

Motion to adjourn: N5VTP

Second: KL7IHK

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned @ 1930 UTC.

Respectfully submitted Dec. 19, 2001. Don Banta/W5RL, Secretary
OMISS