

January 2020 Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:05pm.

There were (28) members present.

President Michael Holbrook opened by stating that the Board did not meet in December and that he has not yet met with possible Member at Large Candidates for 2020, but fully intends on doing so. He did mention that he did talk briefly to Tommy Cheek and Rod Stauffer about non-profits and 501(c) but said he will let Tommy touch on that later in the meeting.

Michael nominated Butch Pendergrass as the Safety Officer for 2020. Butch was approved by all members present.

The Minutes for the December meeting were approved by all members present.

Birthdays for January as read by Ron Mealga: Cindy Whitenour, Michael Holbrook, Ken Blackford, Jim Phelps, Rick Graves, and Howard Bass.

Member Recognition: Many thanks to all members who donated money for run-up stands that Chris Baker has been making. Tommy Cheek was also thanked for all the work he has done in checking into the Field Grant program thru the AMM and for checking into the non-profit / 501(c) possibilities.

Guy Thacker and family and Jessey Josey were voted in as provisional members. George Welcome mentioned that when Guy Thacker and his son first visited the field during the Giant Scale Event that they were so impressed with the field and people that they signed up immediately. George gave many thanks to the entire club for making this field and club a great place to be.

Butch Pendergrass mentioned that the club should have received an application from Mr. Alan Steel, but Michael recalled already bringing him into the club last month.

Michael touched on the Budget reciting a Bank Balance of just under \$19k (\$18,147.39 including the PayPal account to be exact), emphasizing how important it is for the members to read the Treasure and Budget Reports. Michael went on to say this year we will be spending \$6,000 on mowing, \$2,000 on the lease, \$4,000 for the Shelter Loan, \$1,000 for the Port-A-Jon's and roughly another \$4,000 on field maintenance.....all totaling \$17,000 that don't include things like road gravel or other side items.

The Treasures report was approved by all members.

Michael said that he did change the Field Maintenance for this year as last year we spent a ton of money on maintenance. Howard Bass mentioned he spoke to our landscaper, Mr. Hunter, asking if we should put down more Bermuda. The answer was no, but we should put down Pre-Emergent in March (which would be a lot of the cost) and the Fertilizer in June-July, costing right around \$3,000. Michael said that he only had \$2,500 for such expenses, not \$3,000.....thus, this is another \$500 the club will have to bring in. He went on to say that he left the expectations for the events the same, being very optimistic,

with hopes that the weather will be good to us. Michael did add that he thinks, money permitting, we should roll the field again to help smooth it out.

The Budget for 2020 was approved by all members present.

A motion was made to make Rod Stauffer the "Guardian" over the club, including his name and address on the papers for the State of NC that pertain to our "Non-Profit" status. Said motion was approved by all members present.

OLD BUSINESS

Michael mentioned that Tommy Cheek will be the CD for RECFF and proposed the dates of August 21-23rd. Michel spoke about the passing of Andy Cane, AMA's District-4 Event Coordinator, and asked that sanctions for all events this year be turned in ASAP, not know how long it will now take for them to go through. The above dates were approved. Tommy said that the first raffle prize is already lined up for the event, a new 55" HD LED television, still in the box and that he is working on some other stuff as well, wanting to mix it up a little bit this year.

George Welcome confirmed the proposed Giant Scale Event dates of September 10-13th. Said dates were also approved by all members present.

Michael again asked for all CD's to get their Sanctions in ASAP, followed by Butch Pendergrass saying that he believes the person handling the Sanction request for District-4 is a woman by the name of "Kathy."

NEW BUSINESS

Chris Baker suggested having some sort of "Fun Fly" sometime in April. Tim, Tommy, George and Ken would help organize it. It was asked that said volunteers discuss it and get back to the club in February.

Tommy Cheek mentioned he is working with Johnson's Modern Electric to help with the of the electrical work under the Shelter, as well as have them pay for it.

Tommy also spoke about getting a 501(c) status for the club in that the first person he spoke to said that it wouldn't be possible for a private club like ours to get one, but that he does want to get a second opinion. Tommy finished by saying that he could raise a ton of money for the club if we can get our 501(c), especially with the contacts he has in his line of work. George Sudermann said that it is possible, knowing of other groups that do have them.

Michael talked about Gate Keys, suggesting that we keep the same keys since only a small handful of members will be lost since last year. It was suggested that the club could put the money we save towards the Shelter project. A motion was made to keep the same key for 2020. The motion was approved by all members present.

Tim Anderson encouraged all members to please respond to the FAA / AMA ruling, citing that the way AMA has responded to the FAA, it has changed the way the FAA is handling it. Tim talked about an

email that came down late in the day from AMA that has ways to respond to the FAA with cut-and-paste options that would let the FAA know that we are all paying attention to what they are proposing.....such as.....the possibility of needing to have a transponder in all RC aircraft. It was asked if our field is in a restricted zone. The answer was/ is no. Michael asked for everyone who does have email to please respond and help advocate and support the AMA.

Michael mentioned that Mark Brunner has a 90mm EDF kit if anyone is interested, for \$200.

George Welcome suggested posting event pics on the website in that none of the last two years of Giant Scale events have been posted saying that the photographer always responds saying he doesn't know what to do with them. Others said that they have spoken to him and given him direction on what to do.

When asked, Michael said that the latest Roster was sent out this afternoon 1/7/20 and that we have (54) out of (86) members that have paid. Michael went on to remind the membership that after January 31st, previous members will be late with a \$10 late fee and that after March 1st, said late members would have to be re-voted in.

Ken Blackford brought to the memberships attention that there are some Signs that we do need under and or around the Shelter, but not as many as before, but some are needed. It was suggested that we try to put as few as possible, and perhaps put them on each end of the Shelter and not in the middle. It was also suggested to make a larger 2-Sided Sign near the parking area. It was then suggested that we do need a Sign that states that "You Must be a Member of the AMA to Fly at this Field." It was then asked by a member "Why, we don't obey half of the other rules that AMA has." It was stated that we need the Sign for insurance purposes for AMA. Said opposed member followed by saying that there are people within the club that fly behind the Flight Line, thus, not obeying the rules. When asked "Who", said member would not give any names. Said opposed member also commented on certain people who can't make right turns and that they need to fly back behind the Flight Line, over the trees, to make a left turn and then come on in to land. Michael stated that it is a firm rule by the AMA and our Club that each club member must have an AMA to fly. Michael followed by saying that we are getting way off topic in that we are trying to decide on Shelter Signs. Another stated that he liked Howards idea of putting Signs towards the end of the Shelters and not in the middle while another member also stated that we should have the Club Rules posted as well as FPV Rules. When asked if we are going to put the Frequency Board back up, several commented saying that they knew of several people that still fly on 72mhz, but one suggested that if you want to fly on 72mhz and see some with an Antenna, just go up and ask them what channel they are using, as there are not that many users and that they will be easy to spot. Michael ended by asking all the members to think about what we need in terms of Signs before the next meeting.

Howard Bass asked all members to please take out their trash.

Tommy Cheek talked a little about applying for a Field Improvement Grant through the AMA in that the club never has tried. He commented saying that with all the money we spent last year that we do qualify for a \$3,000 Grant and that he has already turned it in for review. He followed by saying that if they come back with needed corrections that there will be a small deadline for him to do so and turn it back in. Tommy said that he feels pretty good in that he doesn't know why we wouldn't get the \$3,000 Grant.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55

The 50 / 50 was won by Leo Whitman, netting \$54.00 while \$54.00 went to the club.

Ken A. Blackford

1-7-20