

## **PALM BEACH PACKET GROUP INC.**

### **MEETING MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 2009**

The meeting was called to order at approximately 7:00 PM by President John Green, WB4MOZ. Those present signed the log sheet. The minutes for the april meeting were not available however they have been posted on the Packet Group web site. There was no Treasurers report as Frank WA4PAM was not present.

Technical Report: John WB4MOZ gave the technical report. The Lake Harbor site is down and no one has been able to get over there to check out the problem. The other sites seem to be working ok. Joal found that the Palm Beach site had gone down and he went to the site and reset it. All seems to be working ok now. He had to do a system restore and it has been working ok since July. John indicated that he thought the systems worked pretty good over the six months he was gone.

Old Business: The signatures for the bank account have been taken care of.

New Business: John congratulated Jeff WA4AW on his appointment as Vice Director for the S.E. ARRL Section. A discussion was held on some of the dead spots in the APRS coverage in Florida. There did not seem to be any idea of what groups or clubs might have digi-peaters in these areas. John indicated that the two major dead spots that he knew of were along route I 10 west of I 95, and south of Jacksonville. David K4DLF indicated he has had some problems with the web page. Gary WA8DAF said he would check it out. Gary WA8DAF explained the various fee structure for the web site. The site had gone down because the fee had not been paid. Gary paid the fee and the site was restored. Apparently there was some confusion between Gary and Frank about the payment. The site is hosted by, "Go Daddy.Com", who offers full service and is located in the U.S.

News and Info: Jeff reported that the Palms West Club would be having a "Ham Radio Fest" on Saturday March 13th at 5841 Corporate Way in West Palm Beach. Contact Rob Pease KS4EC at ks4ec@arrl.net. In addition the club is holding mentoring sessions for new hams.

Gary reported on Hendry County E.M. A new E.O.C. is to be build on the Hendry - Lee County line. Gary said this is going to cause communication

problems as it appears to be too far West to servie the communities. Gary further said that he and Frank were working on trying to get a comm. vehicle.

David K4DLF said there was not much to report on the West Palm Beach Club. The speaker for their next meeting would talk about radio controlled aircraft. The W.P.B. club was also trying to get a repeater on the air. They have a coordinated frequency and are looking for a site.

Jeff WA4AW reported on the ARRL. He said that he has turned over most of his local duties to David K4DLF. David talked about the Council and their work on tax free status for member clubs. David further talked about employees who are hams doing communications for their employers on ham radio, a violation of FCC rules. A point he made was that Palm Beach Fire Rescue is taking the ham radios out of the fire stations.

Marvin spoke about Howie, who has been very ill and in and out of the hospital.

John talked about the equipment that the group has for sale, antennas and radios etc. Contact him or Doug for more info.

Up coming hamfests:

Nov 14th Oakland Park

Nov. 21 Coral Gables

Nov. 29 Okeechobee

Dec 5. Tampa Bay

Technical Session: What happened last summer - comments by various members. Mostly about free telephone services.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:15 PM

Respectfully submitted.

T. Thompson W2TMT