

Maine Association For Search And Rescue

Monthly Meeting Minutes

9 / 10 / 95

Al Martin calls the meeting to order at 1620 hours.

Present-

Al Martin, Keith Heavrin, Steve Hudson, Randy Armour.

Announcements- None.

Secretary's Report-

Minutes from previous meeting were amended as follows: The paragraph towards the end of page one that begins - MESARD has submitted their paperwork for the first----- is changed to read " Unit Certification by MASAR." after the word first. The minutes being otherwise correct were accepted by unanimous vote. A short discussion of what sort of certificate of recognition MASAR should issue to MESARD ensues with the choice evolving towards simple and cheap.

Keith extends his thanks to other members for preparing last meetings minutes in his absence.

Treasurer's Report-

The Treasurer was not present and no report was sent.

Committee Reports-

Communications Committee-

Al gives a presentation on materials he has researched for radio licensing. DIRIGO will be applying for a Marine Coastal License. After some discussion, centered on the general adequacy of our present channels and little need to talk to the Coast Guard, it is agreed that MASAR should not at this time.

Al relates that DIRIGO will also be applying for an Aviation Ground Service License. He says we can't use air service channels unless licensed. Steve relates that in emergencies we are authorized to use any channel. Randy adds that we usually aren't responsible for being part of those communications. Al relates that he had a conversation with pilot Wolverton that was about the difficulty of jammed radio channels on searches at the time that finds were made. He would like to encourage Warden Service to get this license thereby getting them onto a clear channel. The cost of this license is \$ 120.

Al also says that Dirigo will be getting a Land Mobile License which covers ground frequencies all over the state and into Canada. He spoke to Mark Poole the State Police communications coordinator who is also the FCC frequency coordinator for the Northeast. Mark says we don't have to license for 155.160 because we are covered under the State Police license, but we can do so if we choose. Mark Poole also informs us that the new Frequency Designation List has an asterisk next to 155.160 and states that the highest use for this channel is for Search and Rescue. This clarifies some confusion that has occurred before with other users of 155.160. John McDonough sends word via Al that he feels MASAR should get this license at this time if we can do so. Mark Poole also suggests that application be made for all the SAR related frequencies on the same application. It should be a free application for non profits. MASAR hasn't achieved its non profit status determination from the IRS yet but having this license would be well worth the \$80 cost.

Al moves that we expend the funds necessary to acquire both the Land Mobile and the Aviation Ground Service licenses (Approximately \$200). Steve seconds and motion is approved unanimously.

Further discussion of the CMP low band radios begins with some new info about power sources being less than previously figured thus the cost to get them on line being less. General agreement that most of the

reasons MASAR didn't want to get into these low band radios are still valid. Al asks if MASAR will give DIRIGO permission to use these radios as MASAR has decided against using them themselves. Keith moves that DIRIGO be authorized to develop the low band radio resource at no cost to MASAR and that MASAR has the right to use them in the future if it chooses to do so. Steve seconds the motion and it is carried by unanimous vote.

Miscellaneous-

Steve relates that MDI SAR will no longer be dispatching through Irma. She has retired and they will now dispatch through Kath McDonald II- 244-9281 W- 288-0382 OR Joanne Bradt II- 244-5911 W- 288-3371.

Keith relates he has a call in to Sue Webb to set up a time to test her dog to the new MASAR Dog Standard and will do so as soon as he is able to get through to her. Need to get dates she is available before setting it up.

Al Raises the question as to whether MASAR can use the name FUNSAR or whether it is copywritren, and whether it would be appropriate to call the course BASAR (Basic Search and Rescue.) instead. Recognized we can use BASAR.

General discussion of the upcoming W.S. training weekend ensues and that MASAR would like to conduct a training weekend after the W.S. weekend to deal more with the FUNSAR modules and search scenarios. It is forwarded that we would spend all day Saturday with the classes then do a field exercise on Sunday. It is agreed to tentatively schedule the weekend for the 14th and 15th of Oct. Al relates that a location is supposed to be being looked into by Wilderness for somewhere in the Waterville area, but no-one has heard from them on it. Steve says we will need to know where we are going to hold the weekend soon or there won't be time to get notices out to members in time. It is felt that notices should go out by the 20th of Sept. at the latest. Al will call Wilderness and see what they are doing. It is forwarded that several other contingency locations are possible if Wilderness doesn't get it together. In order of mention were Mattawaumkeag Park, KSR, and Acadia Natl. Park. Several present express the desire to have the training even if it is for fewer people. Steve asks who will be teaching the FUNSAR modules. Al says we will have to decide what will be covered and that will determine who will be teaching it. Al asks if he could get Camden Hills State Park as a site, on short notice, for the training weekend, would that be acceptable. It is agreed YES.

Randy relates that we are out of ID cards and he is exploring ways to get more available.

Meeting is adjourned at 1800 hours.

The next meeting will be held in Sidney at Warden Service Headquarters at 1600 hours on October 1st.

Agenda

1. Announcements
2. Secretary's Report
3. Treasurer's Report
4. Committee Reports
5. Correspondence
6. New Business
7. Set Next Meeting Agenda.