**COUNCIL MEETING**

**2/1/24 @ 7:32 PM**

Officers: President Mike Huber, VP Steve Coxon, Treasurer Ian Eggert**,** David Steele

Council members**:** Matthew Montoya Rush**,** Melanie Holmes,Mitch Wendel, Andrej Spec (apologetically late)

Appointees: Auction Mike Hellweg, Editor Micah Issitt, Bob and Lora Watson (barely late)

Guest: Charles Harrison, and Chuck Bremer

Next council meetings: Feb 29, April 4, May 2, May 30

Announcements: Auction Feb 3, Picnic May 4, FORC Budget May 11. The FORC committee will be at 6pm at Paranos

**SECRETARY**

Secretary David Steele read last month’s minutes resulting in resounding applause and unanimous vote to approve the minutes, with Mitch making the motion, and Micah 2nd.

**TREASURER**

Treasurer Ian Eggert very confidently and almost shining brightly like a diamond, shared specifics financial numbers for the diversified accounts, income and revenue for the month, and total expenditures, which resulted in a net operating loss for the month.

**EDITOR**

Micah – NN2R, Ian asked about Countertop Flyers, Micah gave a very confidently thumbs up intimating phenomenal progress being done.

**ADVERTISING, SOCIAL MEDIA, SWAP**

Mitch and Kelly – NN2R

**AUCTION**

Mike Hellweg shared that we will need volunteers in the morning.

**MEMBERSHIP**

Bob Watson shared that we’re getting a lot of renewals, but some that will need loving encouragement.

**HAP/BAP**

Mike Hellweg shared HAP is quiet, BAP polled members about their input about BAP, with varying perspectives.

**EXCHANGE - LIBRARY – REFRESHMENTS**

NN2R

**WEBMASTER**

Charles shared he needs the PayPal information to put onto the website, and updated info for council meetings being 2 Thursday after the previous general meeting. Micah inquired about the possibility of creating a directory to be able to reach council members or members for certain topics.

**LISTMASTER**

Micah NN2R

**SPEAKERS**

Steve Coxon showed an updated list of impressive speakers, with an unnamed source spreading rumors of David Copperfield possibly presenting on how to use magic to make Malaysian Trumpet Snails disappear at one time from your tank.

**YouTube**

Matthew NN2R, but brought up on fish room tour possibly being recorded for the YT, and just needs a heads up.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Huber shared for the May meeting we have got open topic to consider either a rare fish auction or fishy bucks auction, and opened up for discussion. Melanie shared that there will be more interest from general members by having the rare fish auction. After rigorous discussions, the Rare Fish Auction and Awards will be combined for an afternoon member only event.

Plaques and Awards topic was brought up, with a suggestion of rather than individual plaques, to use one plaque for multiple awards.

Auction Laptop Upgrade - Ian shared that his partner has a laptop available for sale secondhand that meets the current spec demands.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Mitch brought up efficiency in MASI Correspondence with donors and sponsors, and be present at meetings and swaps.

Micah brought up the idea of starting a website for the Darter, with an emphasis on soliciting advertisers, with details on normalizing engagement. Micah shared that he, Matthew, and David have an idea for a special free issue of the Darter. It will start as an info page for subscribers, advertiser interest, and a link to MASI main webpage. Micah was approved to collate a full proposal to present for council approval at the next meeting

Lora brought up the topic of hobby day and needing volunteer sign-up process to assign points properly and to mitigate the chance for people to say they’re volunteering but not actually volunteering.

Mitch asked about our 501c3 status, and it was shared that we’re waiting for IRS response.

Mike Hellweg made a motion to adjourn. Lora 2nd. Meeting adjourned 9:39pm.