



Southern Peninsula Emergency Communications System

Serving the communities of Palo Alto, Stanford, Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, Mountain View, and Sunnyvale by helping to recruit, train, and maintain a crew of amateur radio operators ready to provide emergency communication services in a time of need.

Minutes of the Annual Meeting – January 11, 2020

08:00 Membership renewals, coffee and donuts, conversation and ID photos by Phil Henderson, KF6ZSQ.

09:00 Meeting called to order by Grant Elliot, KK6FMQ, President, on Saturday, January 11, 2020 at El Camino Hospital, 2500 Grant Road, Mountain View, Rooms E,F, and G on the lower level. There were 50 plus attendees.

Note: The Treasurer's Report by Patrick Muffler, KG6TMI, is included as Appendix "A" in this document.

Welcome, Preliminary Business and Introductions:

Grant welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Community ECs were introduced and attending members were recognized:

Stanford – Lea Roberts, WA6ITV and members
Palo Alto – members
Los Altos – Jim Clark, N6JRC and members
Los Altos Hills – members
Mountain View – Leslie Grimm, KK6EKN and members
Sunnyvale – Jerry Thalls, KG6HI and members

Preliminary Business:

The proposal to change from using Robert's Rules of Order to Robertson's Rules of Order was unanimously approved.

Attending SPECS Board Members were introduced:



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Table with 4 columns: Yes/No, Name, Position, Call Sign. Rows include Grant Elliot (President, KK6FMQ), Neil Katin (1st VP, K2LL), Dave Koberstein (2nd VP, N9DK), Patrick Muffler (Treasurer, KG6TMI), Jack Pines (Secretary, W1VSL), Paul Goldstein (Training, KJ6AMM), Marc Roddin (Past President, KI6HLH), Scott Overstreet (RA Liaison, N6NXI), Mark Foster (Director-At-Large, NASA-Ames ARC and Palo Alto ARES, KI6DHU), and Jerry Thalls (Director-At-Large, Sunnyvale, KG6HI).

Election of Officers:

Grant led the election portion of the meeting. The slate of officers for 2020 from the nomination committee is:

Table with 3 columns: Office, Name, Call Sign. Rows include President (Grant Elliot, KK6FMQ), 1st VP (OPEN), 2nd VP (Dave Koberstein, N9DK), Secretary (Jack Pines, W1VSL), Treasurer (OPEN), and Training Officer (OPEN).

There was one nomination from the floor: Rick Van Mell, KI6PUR, for Training Officer

For each office a motion was made and seconded to close and accept the respective nominee. All motions passed by acclaim.



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Featured Speaker

Captain Justin Stockman
Santa Clara County Fire Department

Topic: “MOSES” – Short for Mobile Operations Satellite Emergency System.

MOSES is a trailer-mounted communications system completely independent of terrestrial power and telecommunications infrastructure, capable of providing wide area communications coverage wherever it is needed. Captain Stockman spoke to the general technology of each MOSES unit, specific use cases, and its importance.

The presentation slides are available at <https://www.specsnet.org/past-presentations>

Break

SPECS UG Business Meeting

Board Member’s Reports:

Secretary Assistant Leslie KK6EKN: reviewed last meeting’s minutes and asked that they be accepted. The minutes were accepted unanimously.

Treasurer: presented the Activity, Balance Sheet and P&L for 2019 (see appendix). He noted that revenue from The Flea Market was better than the previous year due partly to better weather and partly to a less-expensive site (Fry’s). A motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report was made and seconded. The motion passed unanimously.



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Other Reports:

Dave Platt presented an update on the W6ASH Repeaters. The intermittent interference problem with the 2 meter band remains unresolved, despite valiant attempts to find the cause. A second repeater was set up in another location for the time being. Three new commercial-grade antennas have been purchased and will be installed at the new location. The repeaters will move to the new location in the spring and the old tower will be demolished.

Meeting Close

Grant closed the meeting at 10:50 am.

APPENDIX A

SPECS Users Group Treasurer's Report 01 January 2018 through 31 December 2019



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Assets

Table with 4 columns: Accounts, 1-Jan-17, 31-Dec-17, Change. Rows include Regualr Checking, Bus. Fundamentals, Checking, CD 6424, CD 5425, Pay Pal, and Total Assets.

There is one current liability, a payment of \$41.75 to the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration for sales tax on the 2017 Flea Market concessions. This cannot be paid until January 2018.

Flea Market

Table with 4 columns: Year, ASVARO fee, Gate, Profit/Loss. Rows for years 2015, 2016, and 2017.

- Income from the SPECS Flea Market Saturday 08 April 2017 at De Anza College was seriously impacted by rain, resulting in far fewer sellers than the number required to break even from gate receipts. SPECS Users Group collected \$1,035.00 from only 34 sellers.



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- The amount collected in 2017 was \$1,365.00 less than the \$2,400.00 fee paid by SPECS Users Group to the Association of Silicon Valley Amateur Radio Organizations (ASVARO).
- Fortunately, ASVARO still had a Rainout Protection Fund that covered this shortfall of \$1,365.00.
- Note that the two rainy flea markets (March 2016 and April 2017) nearly exhausted ASVARO's Rainout Protection Fund.

Payment to the SPECS Repeater Association in 2017 was \$364.17, the usual transfer of ½ of Flea Market profit.

SPECS Users Group had 132 dues-paying members in 2017. 72% indicated that they were ARRL members.

Patrick Muffler, KG6TMI

Treasurer, SPECS Users Group



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