

MINUTES OF LIDXAX INC. MEETING—November 20, 1998
Location: Polytechnic University, Farmingdale, N.Y.

The LIDXAX President, Marty, NN2C called the meeting of November 20 to order at 8:08 PM. Marty welcomed guests—ex-members, Mark, WB2QJ, and honorary member Hank, W2HAP, to this meeting.

In terms of DX, it was reported that the DXpedition to Pratas Island as BQ9P was winding down. This country is number three on the most wanted DXCC list. The recent solar storm had caused lots of propagation problems for most of the country. Many people were unhappy with the operating practices of the DX operators. The BQ9P operators also had a lot of noise from local military stations on the island. Lou, N2TU, had made numerous autocalls to members when the DXpedition first came on the air.

OLD BUSINESS

Marty mentioned that at recent IOTA convention, the award the Long Island DX Association sponsored in memory of past member Bob, K2EYJ, was awarded to Lew, N6VV/7, who activated many new islands in North America. After a short discussion, members decided that it was not financially possible, at the present time, to make this an annual club-sponsored award.

The minutes of the October 16th meeting were not distributed due to the absence of the LIDXAX Secretary, Ed, K2MFY. Pat, KE2LJ, agreed to take tonight's meeting minutes, and forward them to Ed for typing, editing, and publication. Russ, W2RL, LIDXAX Treasurer, reported that the amount presently in the club's treasury is \$1596.74. He mentioned that he recently sent the *ARRL* \$50 to sponsor the 15-meter SSB high-score plaque in the annual *ARRL DX Contest*. Last year, ZP5MAL sent the club a \$100 donation after the *ARRL* presented him with his award.

NEW BUSINESS

Marty suggested two new amendments to the LIDXAX Constitution. One would permanently change the month for elections of new officers from May to April. This is now necessary due to conflicts between the LIDXAX election meeting, and the heavily attended *Dayton Hamvention* (to be held on May 13 to May 16, 1999). The other amendment suggested, was to keep the start time for the Sunday night LIDXAX net permanently at 8 PM local time and not 0100 GMT (which always changes when we go to EST, etc.). Ballots were handed out for the April meeting date amendment, to be counted at the next full meeting, the 15th of January 1999. After a brief discussion on the proposal for net times, it was decided to leave the meetings at the 0100 GMT time.

On the subject of Good and Welfare, Marty mentioned that the OM of Kate, AE2Z, took a fall and hit his head while on vacation. Presently he is in the hospital in Miami.

On a number of miscellaneous issues:

- It was decided to acquire a vanity call for the LIDXAX for future events. Frank, N2FF, will attempt to get the call, WY2K, for the club.
- A discussion ensued on the various techniques members could use in order to attract new members into the club.. Nothing formal was developed.
- In terms of PacketCluster business, Larry, K2LS mentioned that the new Buckmaster CD (November 1998 edition) was available at his packet node. Mike, N2TX, reported on cluster backbone changes. His node connects to K2GX and W2XX, and also the K2LS node.
- Marty discussed his recent visit up to the *ARRL*. He mentioned that beginning January 1999, the *ARRL Outgoing QSL Service* is increasing its outgoing QSL-handling rates from \$4 to \$6 per pound.

The next item discussed was the year-end Holiday party. Various opinions were brought up, but members agreed to have Larry, K2LS, arrange to have it catered with hero sandwiches, soda, etc. Larry thought the cost to the club would total about \$100. A motion was passed to accept the charge and have the party at the school. It was agreed to charge \$5 for each member attending, whether they brought any guests, or not.

Because a December meeting, held on the third Friday of the month, would be conflicting with the Hanukkah celebrations, it was agreed to hold the meeting/party a week earlier, on December 11.

At the conclusion of the meeting, Marty reminded the membership that dues, in the amount of \$25, is due starting with the October meeting. The business meeting then concluded at 9:25 PM. Marty urged all members to attend the Holiday Party on December 11. For those unable to attend, a good holiday was wished. The next regularly scheduled meeting for the LIDXAX is on January 15, 1999.

Ed Whitman, K2MFY
LIDXAX Secretary
(per notes taken by KE2LJ)