

Honeywell Retiree Social Club Minutes

Wednesday, November 29, 10:30am, via Zoom

Sherry (Maxson) Myers, Secretary

December 8, 2023

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In attendance: Kirk Anderson, Mary Barkl, Kevin Harris, Keith Hughes (AAC), Bruce Landini, Doug Metzger, Sherry Myers, Kay Nye

1. Welcome: Keith Hughes (AAC)

2. October 2023 meeting minutes were approved by all.

3. Website/eBridge report – Kevin

Website maintenance, Kevin updated the event schedule page.

Our transition to complimentary Newtek managed support plan has been completed; we now have phone support which allowed Kevin to speak with a support engineer and have him witness a site outage while on the phone. He was also able to bring quicker closure on three problems by email and phone with Newtek management, as his contacts now include the president and COO, the CIO, the VP of Server Management, two VP IT Solutions Specialist and a technical account manager assigned by the president to focus on our problems. Also have access to all our support tickets which is helpful since Newtek's communication is not strong. As a result of the increased management attention, Newtek made three further changes to improve success rates for distribution of eBridges, informational mass emails and the Board@hrcaz.org mailing list: the send rate limits have been increased; emadmin@hrcaz.org increased to 350 recipient addresses per hour and board@hrcaz.org to 100 per hour.

For three weeks, Newtek has been monitoring our site for outages by using remote monitors, and they caught several outages. These outages have so far all been due to problems at the monitor end or between the monitor and our site, none with our server.

Kevin distributed the November eBridge with only one delivery failure being reported. The member didn't follow up, so cause is unknown (maybe went to Spam folder?).

Kevin sent out emails to solicit membership renewal and joining, based on thorough work by Mary Barkl, Kay Nye and Ted Rees. As expected, about 10% of the addresses failed; however, there were some ambiguous results when re-sent to these failed addresses from Kevin's personal email address. Specifically, there were no server address error messages as before, but none of the recipients replied to confirm receipt as Kevin had requested. Interpretation and investigation are ongoing.

4. Treasurer's Report – Doug

Almost nothing in the October report; just a little dues coming in. Good news, Doug went to Credit Union on Monday, six memberships renewed by check plus one more this morning on Paypal. The work has netted 14 members (very good!). Expenses Kay had have been paid. Mary has four checks, may drop them off to Doug this afternoon – eight people who are going to attend Christmas luncheon. Doug can deposit remotely.

5. Cruise Update – Barb

Barb is currently on a cruise. New cruise info was in last month's Bridge.

6. Bridge Status/Issues – Kay

Sent out reminder on Monday for December Bridge inputs, due by December 11 to get it out by the end of that week. Kay will be gone December 5-12 but will have access to email and text during that time.

7. New members – Mary

Regarding the list we worked with, Kirk had three renewals. We now need to assume everyone has been contacted so no need to contact them again. Ted should leave them in his database; maybe put them in there as past members. Ted has a database that tells if someone was a member several years ago. There have been seven to ten renewals based on this list.

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8. Upcoming Event Christmas Luncheon – Mary

Mary has four checks (eight attendees) for Doug, plus Mary will attend, she paid online.

9. HRSC/AAC Clubs Merger?? – Board/Keith

About eight to ten months ago, AAC thought about getting a tax ID to call themselves a social club but it would cost close to \$1,000 to process in order to be able to use Pay Pal. Then the government changed regulations and it comes in as Keith's personal income tax so that was stopped.

Keith put together some random thoughts, "Combining the AAC and HRSC," emailed the document to the Board members. In it he covered:

Missions and Memberships. Missions are similar. Membership is different in that AAC eligibility is open to more individuals.

The AAC club meets at the Aero Credit Union headquarter Board room, a nice room with overhead projector. Before each meeting, people send out their details.

Meeting Agenda. The AAC meetings follow this pattern:

- Go through the minutes real-time.
- Cover Treasurer's report, membership headcount and renewal, and past and future events.
- Review the draft of their newsletter The Wings so that it can be sent out within a few days.
- Next they had someone who advertised club events.
- Discuss website metrics.
- Discuss new business – the annual budget.
- Finally the Wings is reviewed on the big screen just before a round table discussion.

At least 70% of the meeting is used discussing the future events.

Membership Report. Every month Barbara Brockett provides a membership summary and trends, shows record of membership through month and year. If they need to contact a member, texting is most effective.

Club structure. Everybody on the committee has a job, most are involved in organizing events. Their Vice Chairman just passed away, so need a replacement. Joyce also organizes the Christmas lunch besides publishing the Wings newsletter.

Larry Bowe has been involved since about Day One and said that many years ago, the AAC club was very casual, informal; no minutes, bylaws very casual. Mostly a group of people who wanted to get together.

Kevin Vetter does minutes (secretary type position), but because AAC is a casual organization with no tax ID, they are not published and neither are finances.

Next Steps in no particular order. Suggested topics to consider for going forward with combining; topics discussed:

- Form transition committee
- Future committee
- Review each club's By Laws
- Club Name
- Web Site
- Announcement to members
- Newsletter
- New Member recruitment and membership management
- Club financial accounts

Keith suggested combining the clubs with AAC board, they said sounds like a good idea, let's find out. Doug said HRSC became a 501C7 around 2016 although he wasn't involved at that time. We spend \$0 every year to renew this but we do spend \$10 yearly to AZ Corp Commission. For AAC, the tax man

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wanted \$600 to process the request and total cost came to almost \$1K with \$10/year after that. Only reason they pursued this is they started using Pay Pal. Laws changed in 2021, any money coming in to the club would go to Keith's income as a hobby.

There is a problem, as a social club, you can have no more than 15% non-members at events. To be a social club, must make spouses associate members or something to not break the IRS requirements.

HRSC became a 501C7 to keep it separate from the scholarship foundation. Gwen Scheetz provided info to Doug, can check with her about start-up expenses, but this becomes moot if clubs combine.

Keith suggested that if we combine, do it by the end of HRSC fiscal year (May through April) – cleaner that way.

Kevin brought up two items:

- Bank account – keep the one Doug manages, or AAC have some control? No discussion with AAC group but Keith thought would be good to keep HRSC since Pay Pal is set up on it.
- Website – AAC's is more modern looking, less stuff in it. AAC had online payment but was taken down due to tax situation, HRSC website has online payment. HRSC website has a lot of history, Keith would not like to see that go away.

Generally Wings delivery problems are very rare and they send a few hard copies out.

It was agreed to set up a subcommittee to discuss combining clubs. Kevin volunteered.

It was suggested to keep databases and some processes separate at first. New database for new members in joint club. Vote on exploratory committee, combining clubs.

Joyce would like some money for gift cards for the Christmas lunch. Vote was taken, all agreed. Doug will write the check if he gets a voucher from AAC. To make sure we have a quorum, Mary will send email to all Board members for vote.

Keith proposed setting up a meeting with reps from both clubs to discuss combining; Mary will provide HRSC names and emails to Keith. The name of the club is important. Honeywell-Aero? There is Honeywell-Garret club.

Meeting adjourned at 12:05 pm. Next meeting: Wednesday, December 27, 2023, 10:30 am, via Zoom.