

Oregon Rocketry May 2011 Meeting Minutes

Giovanni's Restaurant, May 5, 2011: The meeting was called to order at 7:30 by Gary Goncher. Officers present: Paul Bogdanich (secretary), Gary Goncher (president) and Ken McGoffin (publicity director).

Report of the April Minutes

The club secretary reported on the activities at the April meeting.

Trailer Party Schedule

The tentative trailer party dates remains at May 7th but is weather dependent with the alternate date being May 14, 2011.

Duty Vests

The club was informed that orange duty vests had been received for LCO, RSO and other various positions with one such vest being displayed to club members. The new procedure is that all persons performing LCO, RSO or other "vested duties" must be wearing the vests. If there is no "vested" LCO then nobody launches. This control was put in place to encourage adherence to procedure during lightly attended launches and slack time and to ensure that responsible parties are supervising launch activities at all times.

Insurance Clarification

The membership was reminded that TRA and NAR insurance respectively covers rocket related accidents only at the sponsored launches. It was also reiterated that the insurance does not cover non-rocket related activities such as falls, vehicle or other accidents. It was also stressed that to be covered one must be a member of either NAR or TRA.

Dogs at Launches

It has come to the club's attention that there was an incident involving a dog at one of last year's launches. While every dog is different, some dogs get upset by crowds and some by noise and others nothing seems to bother. Nevertheless, because launches are crowded and noisy and because it is functionally impossible to vet the individual character of every dog that might be present at every launch the President proposed and the members approved by unanimous vote that the club adopt a pet policy whereby all pets must be leashed, tethered, in a kennel or a motor-home or otherwise restrained during launch hours. The clubs policies rules and procedures will be updated to reflect the change.

Wilsonville Update

The launch results for the April Wilsonville launch were summarized and good participation translated into between 40 and 50 flights at April's launch. It was also announced that a review of the field size the proximity of the trees and the experience at prior launches indicates that the launches will be restrained to "D" motors and down which policy includes saucers and other short flight vehicles.

Support Requests

It was mentioned that this has been a very busy year in terms of support requests from boy scout troops, cub scout packs, school groups and other similar

organizations. The publicity director has been looking into most of the requests and took the floor and discussed the challenges with some of these requests. While we are always happy to reasonably support rocket related activities we can not provide launch venues other than at our regularly scheduled launches. As many of these groups carry their own insurance, the launch venue seems to be the major problem with most of the requests particularly in light of Portland's public parks ban on rockets. The fluid situation of the Portland State group that wanted to use the Brothers site as an alternate to BlackRock was briefly discussed and we are awaiting further information from that group on their schedule. It was also discussed that an approved launch venue like Brothers can-not be shared by a private launch (like Portland State) and an approved entity like OROC or BORG on the same day. This problem can be surmounted by ensuring that a senior member of the private group be an NAR or TRA member and be qualified L2 or higher (depending on the motor classification to be flown) and then in those cases where there is a scheduling conflict the group can participate as guests at the scheduled launch.

NARCON Reminiscence

The great success and strong line-up of guest speakers and workshops and tours and such was briefly recounted and congratulations was once again put forward for the great conference hosted by NAR in Seattle earlier this year.

Treasurer's Report

It was announced that because of work requirements the club treasurer, Robert Brabish has temporarily (through the Summer) relocated to Tempe Arizona. In his absence all deposits and payments will be handled by the club President, which task should be easier given that the porta-potty service has been pre-paid for the year. The reported bank balance as of May 5, 2011, was not reported exactly other than it approximated the \$3,836 balance reported last month less additions for new memberships received. It was also mentioned that Mr. Brabish still hopes to attend some of the Summer OROC launches while on furlough from his duties in Arizona.

Call for New Business and Adjournment

There was a call for new business and being none the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:18 p.m.

Please send any corrections to Paul Bogdanich @ tra11654@iinet.com