**Minutes of the 12 January, 2012 PSC Meeting**

**ARRL HQ**

**January 12, 2012**

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM EDT January 12 with Director Edgar, N3LLR, in the Chair and the following Programs and Services Committee members present:

Director David Norris, K5UZ, Delta Division

Director Joyce Birmingham, KA2ANF, Hudson Division

Director Jim Fenstermaker, K9JF, Northwestern Division

Vice Director Jim Tiemstra, K6JAT, Pacific Division

Dick Norton, N6AA, Southwestern Division

Also present were Vice Director Abernethy, W3TOM, Atlantic Division Vice Director; and David Patton, NN1N, Manager, Membership and Volunteer Programs Department. Other members of the Board joined the meeting as observers throughout the day.

With no one in the room able to take the notes of the meeting, and Mr Patton refusing to do so when asked at the last minute, Mr Patton left the meeting at the Chair’s request to find someone to record the notes. News Editor Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA agreed to do so with the concurrence of her supervisors, and she joined the meeting at 9:40 AM.

2. The Committee discussed operations on the 30 Meter band and the status of some PSC questions to staff regarding removing the power restriction on the band.

3. Discussion moved to PSC 2011-018, regarding Card Checking issues.

4. On motion of Mr Tiemstra, seconded by Mr Norton, it was VOTED to task DXAC, VUAC and CAC with the topic of how to integrate mobile operating into ARRL’s DXing and contesting programs. The PSC will draft tasking language at its next meeting.

5. The committee members discussed the recent LoTW glitch that occurred after a major contest and the possibilities for adding the ability for contest entrants to opt-out of receiving contest awards. The Committee was in recess from 10:25 AM until 10:35 AM.

6. Debra Johnson, K1DMJ, Manager of the Education Department gave an update on the Department’s work and plans. She fielded questions about online classes that had been removed.

7. The PSC heard reports from the Standing Committee liaisons for the DXAC, and CAC.

8. After hearing an update on the VUAC’s work from Central Division Vice Director Kermit Carlson, W9XA, the PSC members discussed the upcoming programmed sunset of the VUAC. The Committee was in recess for luncheon and presentations about the Online DXCC system and Digital QST, from 11:57 AM until 2:25 PM, reconvening with all hereinbefore mentioned. The topic of renewing the VUAC was continued. The PSC VOTED to make a motion at the Annual Board meeting to continue the VUAC for a period of one year – until July 31, 2013.

9. Covering new topics, the PSC members and other Board members discussed the ARRL Affiliated Club program and possibilities for energizing the program and the Special Service Club program. One proposal that came from this discussion was the value in being able to assign an OES (Official Emergency Station) appointment to an ARRL-affiliated club. The PSC VOTED unanimously to have staff updated appointment guidelines to allow for OES appointments to be given to clubs and design the criteria for which a club would qualify for such an appointment.

10. John Robert Stratton, N5AUS, West Gulf Division Vice Director, updated the PSC about the work done with the Volunteer Counsel program and what was being done to reinvigorate this volunteer group. The Committee was in recess from 3:45 PM until 4:00 PM.

11. Mr Patton updated the PSC regarding the progress made in finishing the Online DXCC web tool, and about the status of the popular 75th Anniversary Diamond DXCC Award.

12. The PSC unanimously selected Andrey Federov, RW3AH/KL1A, to be presented to the Board as the 2011 International Humanitarian Award winner.

13. The PSC deliberated over the nominees for the 2011 Bill Leonard, W2SKE, Professional Media Award. The decision about which candidate to present to the Board as the winner was postponed until later in the evening after the committee members had viewed the media accompanying the nominations.

14. The committee discussed some of the planning for the special operating event for the ARRL Centennial in 2014.

15. An ECAC proposal for setting training standards for SEC and DEC appointees was the next discussion topic. The PSC members decided to ask for more information from the authors of the proposal and left further discussion of the issue to what will be the newly seated PSC later in 2012.

16. The PSC VOTED unanimously to approve some minor changes to the ARRL Rookie Roundup rules, which included removing 6 meters from the event, and allowing for multi-operator entries.

17. After finalizing action items resulting from this meeting, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 5:00 PM.