

Strawberry Patch RC Pilots Club: Meeting Minutes 18 August 2019

The meeting was called to order at 11:05 AM by President Phill Thain. There were 17 members present.

Phil provided the members with a status report. Phil stressed safety; an emphasis because of the large number of new members who have joined the club this year. Phil stated that, from his point of view, things were running OK, but that some complacency was setting in on the part of long-time members thereby creating a bad example for the new members. Specifically, Phil would like loud and clear calls of intent; e.g., takeoff direction, landing direction, etc.

Phil also stated that he has observed that the “time using the field”, discussed at the previous meeting, was working with no one apparently hogging a pilot station and/or the runway and no one apparently waiting too long for an opportunity to fly.

Phil also stated that he appreciated the assistance of folks helping new members; e.g., Mark Higgins, Bob Palermo, and Al Ramsdell instructing and Jason Langlois assisting a member with repairs to his “first” crash. I apologize if I missed anyone, but kudos to all who are helping out.

Phil then asked for the Treasurer’s report. Michael reported that the club has a balance of \$1,304.38 in checking and \$227.05 in the savings / reserve fund. Since the last meeting, the club spent \$25 for mower gas, \$37.13 for the windsock hoop repair, as well as \$176.55 for picnic supplies and \$100 for the Bonanza restaurant gift certificate to our field host, Albert Lavigne. Income was \$60 with a member renewing and a new member, Gene Turner, joining. The reserve / shelter enhancement fund increased by \$0.01 since the last meeting.

Phil then asked for the Field Marshal’s report. Steve had nothing new to report, but in response to a member’s question about the pit detour, replied that it would be at least a month more. Woody related a comment from our host, Albert and his brother Patrick, that the total job could take a year, but that would include the dredging of the far, large pond, and not just the emptying into our water ops pond.

On the positive side, as the water level has dropped, considerably, a few members were able to retrieve models that had previously been hidden under the surface of the large pond after an unplanned arrival. In one case, although the model was a loss, all the electronics survived the bath.

Phil then asked for the Safety Officer’s report. Woody commented that Phil already provided the report (referring to safety remarks.)

Woody asked for the communication to be clear and loud enough for folks near the flight line to be aware of a pilot’s intentions.

Phil commented that a resident of the park on the other side of the tree line observed Phil holding a model and remarked that Phil must be one the noise makers. Phil engaged the person and was informed that noise was not an issue; just an off-the-cuff remark.

Phil then asked if there was any new business. Phil then commented that it appeared that the estate auction of items (previously reported) most likely would take place at the October 6th meeting immediately following the election of club officers.

Woody asked if the auction could be open to member supplied items. There was considerable discussion with a consensus that the estate items should be auctioned off, first, as the proceeds go entirely to the club and so that Garry Pettegrove would not have to provide storage; after all, he is doing this as a favor to club members.

A motion was made (seconded and approved unanimously) that (1) the estate auction take place, first, (2) then open the auction to member supplied items, (3) member auction items will be subject to a club fee of 10% of the proceeds with a cap of \$40, and finally, (4) all transactions are to be on a cash-only basis.

Garry will be providing an updated description along with photos as he continues to unpack and reassemble the models. An updated listing/description document will be circulated to the club members along with adding the document to the club's website. Each model also comes with the corresponding user's manual; most helpful.

There was nothing else to report, so the meeting was adjourned at 11:20 so flying could resume.

Michael Pilla, Secretary