

April 2017 Meeting Minutes – Northwest Skyraiders (Model Airplane Club)

Meeting held April 11th, 2017 7:00 PM at Denny's at 1246 North Central Ave, Kent, WA.

Fifteen members and one guest were present including:

- Mike Potter – President
- Mike Haverly – Vice-President
- Steve Holt – Secretary/Treasurer
- Dave Gardner – Safety Officer
- Jeff Byers
- Bill Darkow
- Bob Einhaus
- Fred Gordon (New Member)
- Steve Helmick
- Ben Jones
- John Knoppi
- Trent Marvin
- Kris Millard
- Pete Peterson
- Howard Rush
- Bob Foster (Guest)

Mike Potter called the meeting to order at 8:00. Mike asked for the Secretary / Treasurer's report. Since there was such a large turnout and new members present everyone went around the room and introduced themselves. Steve Holt noted the balances in the savings and checking accounts for the club. Steve provided Mike Potter the license tabs for the large trailer for the carrier deck that had been mailed to the club at Steve's address. Steve noted that 27 members have now paid their dues as of the April meeting. One new member attended the meeting, Fred Gordon. Welcome to the club, Fred.

Dave Gardner prepared information for presentation to the proposed flying site owners. It was used for two possible flying site proposals this month. Dave has published a first version of the club flying, contest, fun fly and swap meet schedule for the year and distributed it to the broad distribution list. Howard Rush and Dave Gardner volunteered to be the Contest Directors for the two contests scheduled for the club at the Centralia – Chehalis airport flying site in June and September this year. They will need some help from the club running the contests and preparing the flying site as was done in the fall of 2016.

Steve Holt noted that our AMA Club #330 Charter has been paid for and received from AMA National offices along with a copy of the Insurance Certificate for the Centralia – Chehalis Airport Flying Site. Steve will contact the Airport Manager to ensure he has a copy of the latest insurance certificate. Typically, AMA National mails a copy directly to the Flying site owner or listed manager at the same time they notify the club.

It was noted that the Grants Pass swap meet was held on March 18th, and Portland on April 7th. No future swap meets are scheduled in the near future. Relative to the Fall Swap Meet sponsored by the NWSR club, it was suggested by Mike Potter that the Clover Park option may not be available this fall, so it was proposed to approach Rod Claus about the use of his hangar at Crest Air Park once again. We will get in touch with Rod in the month to see if that would be a possibility to discuss in future meetings.

Relative to the topic of identifying and securing a new flying site for next year's flying season, Mike led a discussion.

Auburn Airport – Mike Potter sent an email to Kasey Maiorca, the manager at the airport, but the request to fly there in 2017 was declined. So the Auburn Airport option is no longer available to the club.

Auburn Buddhist Temple at 37th and Auburn Way - Mike Potter continues to follow up diligently providing information and letters of recommendation to the leadership council at the prospective Buddhist Temple site. Mike is hoping to hear back from the council in the future as to the viability of an agreement to fly at this site. This is a very good site with well-maintained grass surfaces that would be a great place to fly and hold events.

7215 S. 196th Street Superfund Site – This site is not a viable option at this time due to issues of ownership responsibilities.

Renton site discussions – The club needs to follow up with Randy Corman and other city officials to see if a suitable site can be identified. Randy may have some additional options within the Renton city limits when we meet again in the near future. He was going to talk to others in the city Management to identify other alternatives.

Newcastle May creek Park Site along SE 95th Way – Mike Haverly, Dave and Steve presented a request to the Newcastle City Council in their “Open Comments” section of the council meeting on March 21st about the proposed site on SE 95th Way. It seemed to be well received with quite a few questions asked and answered. We showed a typical model airplane, control lines and handle, which helped the council understand Control Line flying concepts. Rich Crispo, the Mayor of Newcastle referred us to talk to Rob Wyman, the City Manager for follow-up actions. Rob asked Brian Smith to contact the NWSR club to discuss our requirements at the potential flying site property.

Dave and Steve met with Brian Smith, the Infrastructure Maintenance Manager of Newcastle on Friday, March 24th at the May Creek Park site and discussed our thoughts about how we could fly model aircraft on the property. His questions and support were positive and he said he would pass along his input to his boss and the City Manager, Rob Wyman. After waiting two weeks for any response from the city, Steve sent an email to the City Manager inquiring about any further need for information. Steve will drop by the Newcastle City Hall to talk in person with Rob Wyman in the week of April 12th to see if he can keep things moving forward to gaining access and flying permission.

Orting Lions Park – This site was not discussed in the April meeting, but we will follow up.

Riverwalk Park in Kent – Mike Potter has inquired about this site with the Kent Parks and Recreation folks and has not received a response to his requests.

Muckleshoot Bingo Hall parking lot – The possibility was discussed of inquiring about the use of the fenced off section of the Muckleshoot Bingo Hall parking lot that appears from Google Earth maps to have room for one flying circle. The club has spoken to the Tribal council in the past and was unable to secure an agreement that was affordable to the club, but it may be possible now, so contact will be made to inquire as to the viability of using this site if it proves to be useable.

The club was encouraged to keep looking for a site to pursue for next year and to get in contact with the club officers for follow-up right away since the flying months are upon us and we must identify a centrally located flying site soon. Don't wait until the next meeting. Please call right away.

Relative to discussions about some of our flying friends and Northwest flying activities, it was noted that Darrel Rupnow passed away recently and Mike Potter has been asked to help write an obituary for Flying Lines for him. Howard Rush noted that Control Line flying activities have resumed in the McMinnville Oregon area.

Mike Potter asked for any new business. No other business was addressed.

Mike adjourned the meeting until next month. The next meeting will be held on May 9th (2nd Tuesday of the month).

Steve Holt

Northwest Skyriders Secretary/Treasurer

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