

Oregon Rocketry April 2012 Meeting Minutes

Giovanni's Restaurant, April 5, 2012: The meeting was called to order at 7:35 by Gary Goncher. Officers present: Paul Bogdanich (Secretary), Robert Brabish (Treasurer), Gary Goncher (President) and Ken McGoffin (Publicity Director) Tim Ryerse (Safety Officer).

Introduction and Call for New Members

The meeting was called to order and a call for new members or visitors revealed two. Trevor Waddell and Paul Midland with Mr. Waddell joining both NAR and OROC for the first time under the sponsorship of Robert Brabish.

Wilsonville Launch Report

A call was made for the results of the last Wilsonville launch but the lunch was administered by Mr. Packard whose work schedule prevented his attendance so no launch report was available.

Clark College Project

Rob Mitchum gave an update on the Clark College aerospace program's planned participation in the 2012 USLI contest. As It happens the team received parachutes from a vendor that had flaws in workmanship and there was not enough time to correct the error and still make the schedule so Clark College participation for 2012 had to be put off until 2013.

Trailer Party Update

Dave Armstrong informed the club that due to a scheduling conflict the trailer party date has been moved until April 21st with the new rain date of May 5th.

Trailer Weight and Trailer Hauling

A discussion then followed about the trailer weight, the tongue weight, the possibility of adding a second axle and so on. After a reiteration of the usual difference concerning the various points of view on how to proceed, the President asked for a member to get a bid for a second axle so we at least could quantify the discussion further. It was also announced that the Board had voted to compensate trailer haulers \$75.00 for a one way trip from Portland to Brothers, \$20.00 for a one way trip from Portland to Sheridan and \$15.00 for a one way trip from Bend to Brothers. Additionally each time someone hauls the trailer the hauler will receive an entry into a pool of haulers and at the end of the year a material prize (≈\$200.00) will be awarded to one hauler.

New Launch Pads

Following the discussion about the trailer weight the discussion then turned to alternative light weight launch pads with the thought of replacing Quadzilla. There was much objection from the research community to making Quadzilla unavailable for launches. Jonh Lyngdal then presented a design for a new light weight pad he was designing and prototyping which pad costs \$200.00 ea for materials weighed in at 28 pounds had one degree of freedom up to a 6 degree launch offset but required a wrench to raise, lower and adjust the offset on the rail and put the base of the rocket very near the ground where the rocket would be partially or fully obscured by the sage for viewers on the flight line. The blast deflectors for said pads would be cinderblock and would stay out at the launch site while the metallic portion of the pads would be loaded into the trailer. A motion was made to buy two of the pads for \$200.00 each and a vote of the membership was taken and the proposal appeared to have majority support but with reservations. It was also discussed that Messrs. Ryerse and Brabish were working on a semi-permanent footing and stand solution for Brothers to which the existing launch heads could be attached and expected to have a prototype within a few months. Needless to say there are still a variety of opinions on the infrastructure subject and things are still aqueous.

Wireless Controllers

An update was then asked for on the wireless controller subject and there was not much new on the subject. The President asked for quantification of the costs of commercial systems to be obtained and the investigation of commercial and custom built solutions is continuing. The main problem with existing systems seems to be that they are configured for fireworks purposes and therefore are designed to fire large series of efficient, consistent e-matches. This is opposed to rocket use where one copperhead igniter can draw as much as 20 Amps before it doesn't light the rocket anyway. So if a commercial system was used without amendment a set of relays would have to be placed between the controller and the firing circuit. This makes a custom solution where 30A FETS can be wired in all the more attractive and the discussion stalled pending input from Mr. Packard but the investigation on all fronts was continuing.

Additional Prefectures

The discussion then turned to the prefecture situation and Mr. Azinger indicated that in his opinion the additional TAPS solution for Oregon is not quite dead yet. Therefore we will take up the issue again at the May meeting with the Secretary having a firm proposal to present for the establishment of an additional prefecture(s) at that time.

Treasurer's Report

The treasurer reported that the bank balance before approximately \$700 dollars in pending deposits was \$4,443.06 and anticipated expenses between now and next month included, but was not limited to, \$1,260 for porta potty service for the year at Brothers, a \$700 rent payment to the landowner at Brothers, \$400 for flyers and other promotional expenses and \$400 for prototype launch pads meaning the anticipated treasurers balance at the May meeting will be on the order of \$2,200 which amount is considerably lower than the average balance for the same period in 2010 and 2011.

NXRS Sticker Promotion and Award Drawing

During the meeting Tim Ryerse was selling NXRS bumper stickers for \$2.00 each or Qty(3) for \$5.00 or some other convenient amount and everyone who purchased a sticker got one ticket per sticker purchased for a drawing of a Big Red Bee system with a retail value of over \$200.00 which was generously donated by Robert Krausert and Greg Clark providing the manufacturers discount for a premium system. It was the scribes recollection that approximately \$230.00 in stickers were sold.

Adjournment

There being no other business, announcements or pleasantries the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:40 p.m. Please send any corrections to Paul Bogdanich @ tra11654@iinet.com