

Honeywell Retiree Social Club Minutes

Wednesday, January 31, 2024, 10:30am, via Zoom

Sherry (Maxson) Myers, Secretary

February 14, 2023

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In attendance: Kirk Anderson, Barbara Brockett, Mary Barkl, Kevin Harris, Keith Hughes, Doug Metzger, Sherry Myers, Kay Nye

1. December 2023 meeting minutes were approved by all.

2. Website/eBridge report – Kevin

Kevin had an informational discussion with Keith Hughes (AAC chairman) and PJ Hughes (AAC website manager). He learned that PJ uses the GoDaddy web page builder but would need to learn a different page builder to work on the HRSC Newtek-based website. GoDaddy fees appear to be higher than Newtek's, and PJ is also paid for her services. Kevin is waiting clarification on these costs and also for an estimate of the costs for 2025 if we used the AAC GoDaddy-hosted website as the basis for our new merged website. 2025 costs for the HRSC Newtek-based website would be \$191.39 although if PJ helps with this, there would be a cost involved which is not clear at this point.

Keith expressed the concern that he is undecided as to which site to use. Neither he nor PJ have software background, although he can modify the site. With the HRSC web site, concern is succession planning. Kevin shares this concern, has looked for help, hoped PJ could take over. Kevin uses a page builder which isn't very complex, but the GoDaddy one sounds simpler. Any page builder can be used. Occasionally more technical knowledge is needed, Tom Sparks is consultant, but he doesn't want to be the website manager or assistant. The mailing list for the newsletter has nothing to do with this but online payments are. AAC had online payments for a year but they stopped it due to tax issues.

Need to compare the pros and cons, GoDaddy vs. Newtek; also, costs if PJ does some work or not. Both websites are very similar. HRSC website has an Archives section that appears inconsistent. Should it remain? What should be kept, what should be gotten rid of? Sometimes it's more work to get rid of information there. Kevin's proposal is to look at each web page and function we want to have on new website, decide requirements, then choose the best website to provide that. Or should we choose which website first, then choose pages? TBD.

Kevin tested transferring pages from the AAC website to HRSC website. The test was successful, took 30 minutes for 11 pages. Kevin assumes PJ could do the equivalent at GoDaddy so Keith will set up a session for Kevin and PJ to meet regarding this. More work to be done.

Kevin supported Doug's meeting that identified the HRSC position on several aspects of the merger, including website and email.

Kevin distributed the January eBridge and no delivery failures have been reported. He got a report as a result of the solicitation email from someone who said she hadn't received an eBridge for months but when Kevin followed up, she didn't provide further information.

As in December, Kevin sent out a complimentary eBridge with an informational cover message about HRSC to a list of 167 addresses generated by Ted Rees, Mary Barkl and Kay Nye; to date, six new members have enrolled.

3. Treasurer's Report – Doug

Got six new and several membership renewals, most came in through Paypal. It's very laborious to go from the email with online forms input into a form that is usable to crosscheck with Paypal. (The workload is only on Doug.) PJ may be of help with this., it will be figured out.

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4. Cruise Update – Barb

Barb not in attendance; the March cruise information is posted in latest Bridge, has been in there since November. Kay sent the cruise information to Keith and Joyce but it was not in the Wings last month.

5. Bridge Status/Issues – Kay

Working on the Bridge for February, waiting on Wings newsletter to finish it. With regards to the merger, Kay sent email to Barbara and Joyce to meet. Kay gave her recommendations regarding the Bridge and Wings to the Board last week. Barbara will set meeting up shortly.

6. Merger – Doug

Doug sent email to everybody; here are the topics and comments to the merger status updates:

Database

Meeting is scheduled for Friday with Doug Metzger, Ted Rees with Barbara Brockett.

Website

Kevin suggested to decide requirements first, go through each website page (decide what to do – expand, delete all, delete some?) then decide which website will give us the best result. Keith suggested to first decide platform, then work out requirements. Keith will set up the Zoom meeting with himself, Kevin, PJ and Kirk to discuss. They will also need input from the users, what do the members want on the website.

Newsletter

Kay, Barbara and Joyce will meet to discuss.

Bylaws

Kirk and Barbara will meet to discuss the bylaws. Some will be easy to resolve, some to be brought up to group. Structural issues as well. One issue is to agree the new club will have no restrictions on age or employment status. A vote was taken, all agreed on this. Kirk will remove it from the bylaws.

Keith had discussion with Barbara on the bylaws – why is the system set up with four executive officers and six directors that can all vote and then others who cannot vote. AAC doesn't have this structure. Everybody should have a vote. Doug exchanged some emails with the AZ Corporation Commission about the structure, they said must have at least one director (which can be the CEO). Want to be able to register and have an official way to change the bylaws. Keith proposal, have five officers and at least one or two directors and have everybody a voting member. Must register a few people with the State.

Doug put proposal in his email of January 31:

- HRSC Board members will move forward with AAC Steering Committee members on merger teams for investigations and proposals, working toward a target of completing our fiscal year 2024 (registered with the AZ Corporation Commission, ending on April 31, 2024) as HRSC, and combining with AAC (with new name, etc.) as soon as possible thereafter. Such merger will be formally accepted when the bylaws for the new combined club, developed jointly by the clubs, are voted on and approved separately by the HRSC Board of Directors and by the AAC Steering Committee.

He also proposed we approve the following:

- Assuming we do merge, we HRSC will agree to a bylaws change allowing membership also to current Honeywell employees, regardless of age, to align with AAC current membership requirements.

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Paraphrased by Keith: essentially, HRSC club has agreed to merge with the AAC club and details will be worked out; final details are contingent on final approval by each steering committee/board.

The HRSC board decided to move forward with merger – Doug motioned, all agreed. Six agreed so we have a quorum. This could be end of April/first of May. Members will not have a vote in this.

What should go in the newsletter about this. Keith submitted a proposal, could put it in the President's message with first paragraph to be modified by Mary:

The Aero Activities Club was formally known as the Sperry Retiree Club and is about 40 years old. In that time we have hosted hundreds of events supported by a robust membership. Over the years our membership has declined slowly and dropped significantly in the last 5 years mainly in the COVID period. This resulted in a decline in event attendance, membership dues and difficulty in attracting committee members.

The Honeywell Retiree Social Club is our sister club in the Valley with a similar timeline and the same issues. For years we have shared events and coexisted together.

We are in discussions to merge the clubs. Both clubs are open to all Honeywell employees regardless of divisions. Both clubs have similar mission, goals and operating systems and have worked jointly on several projects. Our goal is to combine the clubs by the end of April and celebrate at the Spring Picnic.

As member the first difference you will see is a new club name and revised newsletter format (nothing decided yet). As regards running the club our combined finances will be appreciated, and a larger committee reinvigorated with new ideas to provide more events.

The combination of the two clubs brings more diversity in our membership so future newsletters will have a feature where members can write stories about their particular divisions and rotate the divisions each month.

We are here to answer you questions, concerns and ideas so feel free to contact me. There will be regular updates in the next two newsletters.

Name of combined club

Honeywell Retiree and Activities Club. Kirk will use this in the bylaws since all agree.

Keith brought up the dates and time of future meetings. Combined meeting last time worked fine except some logistics of people dialing in. Keith's Zoom does not have a waiting room. Keith worked with each person individually to understand Zoom. Keith is working to find a regular meeting day and time for the combined group, he's checking with each person for preferences. It's leaning towards the first Tuesday of each month at 1:00 pm, but yet to be finalized. Location will be the Aero Credit Union headquarter office and also offered on Zoom.

Our Zoom payment is due in April. Instead of renewing, we can split the cost \$149 of Keith's Zoom account which runs January through December. No restriction on using the account, so anyone can run it who has a laptop – Doug can do this. We can use Keith's account for our end of April meeting (our Zoom pau April 15).

Kay will take minutes at next meeting since Sherry can't attend. *(Thank you Kay!!)*

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 noon. Next meeting: Wednesday, February 28, 2024, 10:30 am, via Zoom.