

Washington Aerospace Meeting Minutes
February 3, 2007

President Jim Wilkerson called the meeting to order @ 7:06.

Old Business:

Trailer:

Dan Work reported on the associated costs necessary to bring the club equipment trailer to a “road worthy” state. It was acknowledged by all that any additional maintenance expense would be piecemeal at best and a more permanent solution will continue to be sought.

Current trailer is rated @ 500#. WAC GSE load is 1600#.

\$200 would improve tow rating to meet current club needs.

\$1000 would enable club to build new skeleton/plywood trailer.

Brad Wright reported on various “basic to best” trailer prices. Although attractive, purchase economics were recognized as being a limiting factor in a purchase.

5' X 8'	approx \$2400 best	\$2000 basic
6' X 10'	approx \$2850 best	\$2300 basic

Although everyone agreed that a new purchase would be ideal, Kent discussed the unattainable economics the club would have to assume. Brad then related a discussion that he and Red had been having regarding the possibility of Brad and Red purchasing a trailer and leasing it back to the club.

After the first wave of shock paralyzed club members tongues, tentative group discussion turned to the viability of this generous offer. The possibility of a “lease to buy” agreement was suggested. Brad and Kent will talk about the feasibility before the next meeting.

Group discussion turned to the possibilities of storing the trailer on the eastside to avoid hauling it back and forth over the mountains. Further discussion on where and when it would be stored will follow after the election results.

New Business:

Elections:

President Kent Newman

Secretary Jim Wilkerson

Ops Mgr. Brad Wright

Many thanks to Jim Wilkerson as President and Dan Work as Operations Manager for their service through 2006.

Meetings:

Kent proposed the idea of “roving meetings” for the club. The rationale was that, at one time, Puyallup was not only the home of Washington Aerospace meetings but also “All Hobbies”. There was double incentive to travel from all over western Washington to drive to Puyallup once a month. With the advent of “All Hobbies” closing, that motivation was gone.

The suggestion was to consider having a meeting up north once per quarter to attract more members and provide an opportunity for face to face contact with members.

Discussion followed and it was suggested that the “roving meeting” be scheduled on a trial basis. Brad offered the use of MS facilities as a meeting place. The idea was approved. Kent will follow up with a schedule.

Minutes Distribution:

Kent talked about some feedback that Brad received from MS fliers. In an effort to find ways to keep/attract distant members, it was suggested that club business be communicated in better fashion. The WAC email distribution list will be updated and minutes will be distributed within 7-10 days after each meeting. Brad will monitor feedback from the MS group.

Newsletter:

Kent passed around a copy of a newsletter format that was used for a couple of years after the turn of the century. Comments were generally favorable and Kent committed to distributing a newsletter on a quarterly basis at the least.

Membership Dues:

Kent broached the topic of raising club dues in light of GSE and FITS expense. It was mentioned that OROC dues are \$30 while WAC remained at \$10.

Attendees unanimously agreed that higher dues were justified as well as extending launch fees to all WAC launches:

Dues \$30.00 (family) paid annually at the first of the year.

FITS \$30/\$40 (single/family) Current WAC members excluded from fees.

Launch Fees \$10 per person per single day or weekend. WAC members excluded.

Tripoli – Puget Sound (TRAPS)

Kimberly is conducting the vote but has been unreachable today.

UPDATE:

The voting has concluded and Kimberly Harms has announced the results:

Prefect Kent Newman

Secretary Greg Deputy

MJG Ematches:

The group buy was completed and club members purchasing matches received their purchases. MJG presents very economical alternatives to the discontinued Daveyfire “B” ematches (used for recovery initiation) and Daveyfire “F” ematches (used as igniters when dipped).

Kent presented a “burn experiment” to test the MJG match against Daveyfire “B” and “F” matches.

Although each match ignited simultaneously, it was obvious that the extra pyrogen on the Daveyfires produced a very notable larger flame. Kent will review video taken of the test, try some dipped match trials and report back at the next meeting.

Launch Pads:

Kent related his discussion with Greg Deputy regarding the possible construction of 2-3 new high power pads to be ready for FITS. Greg has recently acquired welding equipment and is willing to “practice” on GSE for WAC ☺

Kent will get with Greg on the details.

“FITS” Website:

Kent announced that the 2007 WAC launch schedule was submitted to “Rockets”, “ER”, SR and Rocketry Planet.

A “FITS” ad was also submitted to “Rockets” to be in the April and May issues.

Kent explained that he used www.fireinthesky.org in the ads. Brad Wright will update to help relieve some of the maintenance required on the WAC site. Kent will let Andrew know.

BALLS 15 Video:

Kent brought in a copy of the BALLS 15 video. NW fliers were showcased as evidence of the great NW presence at this research launch.

The meeting then turned to “show and tell” and informal discussion before closing the meeting at 9:10 p.m.