

## **Bowie Seniors Computer Club Meeting Minutes for February 2, 2017**

The meeting was opened at 12:40 by President Carl Bulger. Carl informed members that Kathy White does not want members bringing food and drink into the classrooms.

There was no guest speaker for this meeting. Dale Grant announced that Sam Atcherson, the Club's original president, had passed away at age 92.

There was a group discussion regarding the possible use of the classroom as a place for club members to display and trade used computer parts and accessories. No conclusions were drawn.

A club member advised club members not to reply "Yes" if receiving a telephone call asking "Can you hear me now?" It is an identity theft phish scam in which the "yes" reply is used to record that the call recipient has agreed to something. This led to further discussion about unwanted phone calls and the use of [www.nomorobo.com](http://www.nomorobo.com) to prevent robocalls. The question of whether [nomorobo.com](http://www.nomorobo.com) will work with telephone services other than FIOS was unresolved.

Jerry Kursban said that he had been subjected to a Microsoft Windows update offer that he recognized as a phishing attempt. Dave Hackenberg said that he received three different calls telling him that he needs to update his Microsoft account.

Dave displayed a slide that he received from Bob Rapczynski on how to upgrade to Windows 10 for free!

Bill Long asked for an explanation of what a Windows "homegroup" is and what it's used for. Terry Babb provided an explanation.

Bill also asked for an explanation about VPNs (Virtual Private Networks). Irv Saltzberg provided information about VPN's.

A member questioned why use of his Android smartphone requires that he enter a 4-digit password authentication twice to use it. Several comments were offered.

Bill Long started a discussion about the use for internet service of the in-wall wired TV cabling and wall outlets built into older homes. Bill stated that FIOS optical network terminals (ONTs) utilize the MoCA (Media over Coax Alliance) protocol that enables household TV cabling to be used for an ethernet network. The cable wall outlet connectors can be converted to ethernet connectors using adapters. Irv Saltzberg explained that he uses powerline extenders as a simple and effective means for providing internet service to homes needing service in multiple rooms.

Another member asked for advice about a problem with his new computer being extremely slow with the CPU reporting 100% usage. Bob Blum then gave a video talk on how the task manager can be used to diagnose such problems. Also, solid state drives were discussed as a speed-up option and apps called "Process Monitor" and "Auslogics" provide diagnostic possibilities.