Bowie Seniors Computer Club

Meeting Minutes for September 19, 2019

President Dave Hackenberg presided.

New member: Mr. Chandrika Prasad

There was a brief discussion of malware, spam and ransomware with an example of ransomware found in only one folder containing three files. Usually ransomware encrypts all of the files on the computer.

Steve showed examples of malware screen images that spontaneously appeared multiple times with a different phone number each time while using the Chrome browser. Bob Blum suggested the possibility (1) of a virus on his computer and (2) hacked websites. He suggested screening for viruses and switching to Mozilla Firefox for browsing.

Dave Hackenberg handed out copies of BSCC's Policies and Procedures to be voted on next meeting which is the Annual Meeting, the first meeting in October. Various changes were considered and proposed:

Do we need a librarian? No.

Duties of the President: He should be responsible for reviewing the website; overseeing and managing other functions of the club; and interfacing with others.

How long should minutes remain on the website? Indefinitely, as long as they don't crowd out other important information.

Requirements to be a member of the club: Age 55 and over and be a member of the Senior Center (even though the Club is independent of the Senior Center and the Computer Classroom). Members are not required to live in Bowie.

Donations and giveaways of unwanted computer hardware and software are encouraged provided that anything unclaimed be taken back home at the end of the meeting by whoever donated them.

Jim suggested that we advertise our activities and programs more. This generated some of the difficulties such as The Bowie Blade comes out on Thursdays and won't accept notices more than a week in advance. The notices on the Center's Bulletin Board are all formatted the same so our notices don't stand out. Someone suggested that we encourage the newspaper to feature articles on the Help Lab and Special Programs.

Dave mentioned that Senior Center Management has set up a Technical Committee to recommend technical upgrades and unique technical features for the Senior Center. Dave is on the committee along with Laurel, Colleen, and at least one other. Have a suggestion? Give it to one of them.

Help for Android mobile devices is sketchy. For iPhones and iPads, attend the 10 am meetings of the Apple Club on the second and fourth Fridays.

Bob Blum demonstrated User Interface Enhancements. He is submitting the content to the webmasters to be put up on the website.

Minutes submitted by Barry Hammond in the absence of our Secretary, William Long.