

**Grand Rapids Amateur Radio  
Association**

**Board Meeting Minutes**

**December 5, 2018**

The Board meeting of the Grand Rapids Amateur Radio Association was called to order at 6:45PM by President Thom KI8W.

**President's Report**

Thom: had the secretary read the note Hank N8XX sent regarding helping the Red Cross install a TV antenna. This is for the Disaster Action Team. They tried using an indoor TV antenna, but discovered VHF-UHF TV signals do not penetrate concrete very well. We discussed this and decided to bring it before the whole members. President asked Greg if we had a sufficient members. It isn't very well defined in the By-laws.

Thom brought up the ZOO monitoring project. He didn't know if we should do it or not. It was pointed out that the membership voted to do the ZOO project. (To help monitoring turtles.) Thom had heard that the Zoo was thinking about putting up a donated tower, to perform this monitoring. Thom wondered why if we're only 4 miles away from the Zoo, and the Zoo installs their own tower, what they would need our tower for. They would supply the equipment and the freq is 166 Mhz. if they install their own tower, do we really need to install antennas on our tower.

We have three presentations for this coming Friday: The zoo people, The Red Cross and David DeVos.

**VE Team Report** people took the test. 4 passed the Tech, 1 passed the General and 1 passed the Extra. Steve said there are 6 signed up to take the test this month and he's trying to contact the gent who wants to have 25 people take the test in January.

**Survey Results:** Thom said he had about 20 members respond to the survey he created: the majority wanted "Shorter meetings". Maybe have more food and social gatherings. Station operation training on how to use our rigs. Also bring up a mentor program.

**Treasurer's Report**

Hank: sent the report Steve and Richie:  
Beginning balance October 31th   \$4129.47  
Outflow  
Repeater Expense: Wayland       \$120.00  
Donation to Home school Building \$100.00  
Book for VE testing               \$250.00  
Misc. Hardware for W8DC antenna \$53.14  
Total Outflow                      \$523.14  
Ending balance as November 30<sup>th</sup> \$3606.33  
Note: check for \$53.14 has not cleared yet.

**Tech. Director Report:** The vertical antenna project is finished and works well. We do have a problem with the 160/80 meter dipole. A component may be bad.

**Red Cross Liaison Report:**

Jim is in the hospital with pneumonia.

**Webmaster:** NR

**Old Business NR**

**New Business:** Steve asked if the Comcast service provided to the Red Cross is cable TV too: Tom N8DGD didn't know. Steve thought maybe Comcast might be the solution to the Red Cross's TV reception problem. We discussed many solutions to this problem. Further discussion will be at the general meeting.

We discussed selling the Yaesu FT-920 and replace it with a newer rig. Steve has a deal on a FTX 3000. We're hoping we can raise a significant amount of money from selling some equipment we have, so we don't have to over damage our budget. We all agreed to bring this project to the general membership.

Rich suggested we end the meeting: it ended at 7:42 PM  
Respectively submitted  
Rich K8JX Grara secretary.