

**Grand Rapids Amateur Radio
Association Meeting Minutes**

February 2, 2018

The meeting of the Grand Rapids Amateur Radio Association was called to order at 7:00pm by. President Tom Hansen N8DGD.

President's Report

Tom Greeted everybody and had us introduce ourselves He reminded us that club dues are due at this time. We are still looking for a new repeater site for the 147.260 MHz repeater. He is going to contact several area businesses about a new location.

VP Report

John Streyle W8QZ. NR

Treasurer's Report

Hank:

Income for February: \$130.00 from Dues

Expenses \$ 200.00 to LARC

Food for January party \$84.01

Total Expenses: \$330.00

Ending Balance: \$5548.84

Hank has also received a donation for \$150.00 that was supposed to be here last year. He gave it to Steven.

A motion to accept was made: and passed as read.

On Air Director Report:

Greg KN4CK : He has set up "Log Book of the World". Hank wanted to know if it contains Field Day 2017. Greg didn't know, he will check.

Off Air Director Report:

Dustin : We have a scheduled demonstration of FT-8, by Mike KB8KB and Tom Bossch K8TB. The Grand Rapids Museum is looking for volunteers to man their telegraph ticket booth. Must know Morse code. No date was given, but you can find out by calling the museum.

Tech. Director Report:

Steve reported that we will have to move the 260 repeater by May of this year.

Tom N8DGD will be contacting Dave at T&W to see about a site. The developer will finalize the deal in April: the tower will be gone in May. Steve stated the Radio Room is in great shape, thanks to Thom KI8W. There have been several contests in operation and all seems to be working well. The Red Cross is offering Wi-Fi free to the public. But not all sites will work. Steven presented the options he has heard regarding what the Red Cross will do if they sold their building. Nothing is firm yet.

Member-At-Large Report:

No report.

Red Cross Liaison Report:

Jim: The Red Cross is holding Blood drives at various locations: Harley Davison on Saturday and GVSU's Kirkoff center later.

Digital Rep. Report:

- Nothing to report

VE Team Report: Steven reported 10 candidates showed up at the January 12, 2018 session: 1 passed General 2 passed Technician and 4 made Extra. Next Friday we will be holding another session. There will also be a session for the Ham in a Day class.

Additional Reports

Tom K8TB has had 16 show up for the extra class course. 2 took the test after the first meeting and passed. There are 11 still in the class. Tom also received a \$260.00 donation of which he gave \$130.00 to Steven of GRARA and \$130.00 to Harc. Dave KF8QL has said there is a VHF –UHF contest.

Tom KI8W stated that the Yaesu FT – 920 transceiver needs to have its' comport fixed. Tom has found a person who will fix it. The total cost, shipping both ways, is \$250.00. Tom N8DGD mentioned that the club has just installed a CW Filter in the rig. We may fix it and sell it later to upgrade to a new rig.

Tom also suggested that since we have a new and clean Radio Room, we should also have new chairs to go with it. Tom has found some nice adjustable, leather chairs from Amazon for \$235.00.

A motion was made to purchase 4 of these chairs by Dustin, seconded by Steven kd8mey. It passed.

We then had a general discussion around having the Yaesu FT -920 fixed. It was decided to go ahead and get it fixed. A motion was made by Dustin, 2nd by Joe: it passed with one nay vote.

Old Business: A question came up about the phone center the Red Cross is creating. Nothing further is known at this time. They will require several people to operate the system.

Phil had a question regarding our access to the Verizon tower if the Red Cross sold the building. Steve will check into this.

Hank said we voted at the Board Meeting last Wednesday to secure the Cedar Springs site for Field Day. There is a brewery scheduling a festival for the same time weekend as FD: The city wonder if that might cause interference to our operation: the city is waiting till we discuss if the two operations can work together. We said yes. The city also requires a \$200.00 deposit that will be refunded if the area is clean after we leave.

Tom N8DGD then brought up the situation of finding a place to stay when we go to Dayton. Steven has been thinking that a Bed & Breakfast might be the answer. They want \$1200.00 for several rooms, with a kitchen for 4 days. The discussion then focused on experiences folks have had with B&B's. A motion was made by Jack NY8D and 2nd by Dustin to "Advance" , "Forward" \$1200.00 to Steven, which will be

refunded to the club. Steve said we will need 10 to 12 people. We took a poll and have just about that many who stated they will go. We voted: it passed.

Steven also said they had talked about not spending the extra money to secure a flea-market space. He thought we might be able to share space with one of the two other groups who are going: Sam's K8SN or LARC.

New Business

Hank said he is sending around a Get Well Card that we can all sign. This is for KA5S, who is recovering from heart surgery. He really appreciated the one we send before. We had a question about why the American Flag was at half-mast. Tom thought it had to do with the officer who had died last week in Detroit.

Hank N8XX made a motion to adjourn: The meeting ended at 7:46PM

Respectively submitted
Rich K8JX Grara secretary.