

Grand Rapids Amateur Radio

Association

Meeting Minutes

June 7, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.

President's Report:

Thom was absent due to his being in the Hospital

Vice President: Jim K8JH, took over running the meeting.

Jim introduced himself and explained that President Thom was in the Hospital. Jim by-passed the President's and Vice President's report: nothing to report at this time. He then went to the Secretary's report.

Secretary's Report: The members wanted to hear the minutes from the May meeting. Rich read the minutes: there was no corrections. It was passed and accepted.

Treasurer's Report

Steve gave his report.

STARTING BALANCE \$4,186.65

INCOME

Donations \$150.00

Equipment Sales \$100.00

Membership Dues \$75.00

Total Income \$325.00

BALANCE \$4,536.65

EXPENSES TOTAL \$1,834.44

MAY CLOSING BALANCE \$2,702.21

The report was accepted.

Trustee Report: Tom had nothing to report. Tom had received a certificate for GRARA, "Parks on the Air" award. Hank, N8XX, a S.K., had promoted this award many times. Tom also said the lease for the Moline site expires in August. That's probably when we will move the

transmitter to the Red-Cross site.

ON-THE-AIR Director: Greg said we have Field-Day coming up within 2 weeks. The first thing we need to discuss is what time will we have breakfast: 8AM or 9AM. (At Kelly's restaurant). It was agreed to have it at 9AM. We will then start setting up at 10AM. We will be having 3 stations: a vhf-uhf, cw and digital. Steve P and Greg will be testing the network between the stations. We have one problem: we won't have use of a Red-Cross Vehicle to haul stuff and provide shelter, if it is needed. Greg wanted to know if anyone has a trailer, camper, or anything that provides a closed shelter. We also will need a nice quiet generator. Dinner will be at 6PM. We have no sign-up sheet. The dinner will be a potluck. The club will provide meat. A motion was made to spend \$50.00 of food items. It passed.

It was brought up what would happen if we needed to rent a generator: Greg said he'll wait and decide how to deal with that when it happens.

OFF-THE-AIR Director: Ron, K8DMR wasn't present. He is scheduling a presentation at the next club meeting, July 5th, in the parking lot, about Ham Bands.

Technical Report: Steve is going to contact a few members and see if they have a generator we can use for FD. Steve reported on the successful tower work that was accomplished. They discovered why certain antennas weren't working: water inside the coil housing. Steve reported that they will move the 147.260 transmitter back to the Red Cross site. He still has to work out the uhf link to the receive site. He has learned that the Red -Cross has gotten rid of their vehicles due to their age: they don't want to keep anything older than 10 years. We also have gotten a generator from the Red-Cross, which is more than enough power for our needs. But it needs work and a trailer to haul it on. Also, a gas tank and muffler. Steve doesn't think it would be ready by the FD date.

Member-At-Larger: Bob Moe isn't present.

Club-News: Jim has talked with Dale Williams, from ARRL's Great Lakes Division. He is planning on attending our Swap.

RED Cross: Jim, K8CAN, reported on the "Sound-The-Alarm" event. This was the largest in Michigan history, right here in our own chapter! May 3th, in Muskegon – 31 total volunteers: 153 alarms installed in 58 homes. May 10th in Kentwood Michigan. Farmers insurance provided 185 volunteers. LMCU provided volunteers too. Total of 237 total volunteers. 371 alarms installed in 151 homes. 5 Ham's volunteered for communications. Jack NY8D, Steve P. AC8QE, Hercules Andrus KE8DGF, Frank Schmidt N8UVI and myself. We were assigned to team in patrol

areas where teams were assigned to, and to take care of anything the teams needed. It worked well. It was a great event and worked smooth. They provided lunch: hot dogs, chips and coffee.

Web-Master: NR.

VE: Testing from last month, 2 people made their General. Next Friday we will have another session. Tomorrow, Saturday, LARC is holding a Ham-In-A-Day session.

P.I.O.: Jack, NY8D, reported that The Friday Bunch for Lunch group will go to another location: another group has their present area. This is for June 28th.

Jack also couldn't find the Styrofoam cups for coffee. The club should buy more for our swap.

A member has sent letters to elected officials, inviting them to come out to our Field-Day event.

OB. NOB

NB: Steve shared with us the condition and why Thom is in the hospital. He suggested if you send him a get well card, send it to his QTH address; Steve didn't know if he wants visitors.

Vice-President Jim then had the new visitor introduce himself. He is going to take his test next Friday. He's from Greenville. Jim then had us all introduce us.

Tom made a motion to adjourn: Seconded by Rich the meeting ended at 7:155 PM

Respectively submitted
Rich K8JX Grara secretary.