

Grand Rapids Amateur Radio Association

Meeting Minutes

August 2, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 6:57PPM.

Thom opened the meeting by having us solve a math problem he drew on the board: $8 / 2 (2 + 2)$. There are two answers. He'll provide the answer at the end of the meeting. He then had us introduce ourselves. He thanked Jack NY8D for bringing the donuts. Our September meeting is cancelled, due to that is when we'll be setting up the tables for the swap.

Jack had some announcements: A Ham club is helping out with the Coast Guard parade. Jack also stated many opportunities for Ham's to volunteer.

V.P. We have an opportunity to demonstrate Amateur Radio on August 24th. That will be at the Grand Rapids Public Museum, the outdoors section.

Secretary: No report.

Treasurer:

STARTING BALANCE \$2,796.29

INCOME

Donations \$0.00

Equipment Sales \$250.00

Membership Dues \$75.00

Ham Fest Tables \$10.00

Total Income \$335.00

BALANCE \$3,131.29

EXPENSES TOTAL \$298.01

JULY CLOSING BALANCE \$2,833.28

Motion made to accept by Rich, seconded by Ron: it passed.

RED-Cross: Jim, K8CAN, Reported that the Red Cross needs to raise \$25,000.00 to support families like those who have recently experienced incredible hardship from Tropical Storm Barry, wildfires in California and home fires across the country.

The Responses this month: Distributed over 14,500 relief supplies to people impacted by recent disasters.

Sheltered more than 4 dozen people over the past 3 weeks after the earthquakes in California.

Provided financial support to 30 families after a home fire in North Dakota.

Served more than 75,800 meals and snacks to families across the country.

These are just the numbers our teams in the field shared this month as of last Friday.

Disasters like these happen, no matter how tragic and devastating. But thanks to compassionate friends like YOU, we can be ready to support impacted families across the country.

On-Air-Director: Greg has two items: one is the space station will be sending SSTV transmissions till this coming Sunday. Two is on August 31th, we'll be operating the World Wide digital radio contest.

Tech Director: Steve stated we've been experiencing on and off problems with the GRARA main repeater: 147.260. Steve adjusted the squelch level, and that seemed to make a difference. Steve had Nathen, (LARC) provide his input: he thinks it's a loose wire, causing the controller to go false positive. Tom N8DGD believes the trouble is at the 92nd street location. They will be going out tomorrow to check it out.

Steve also checked out the Fusion Repeater, which seemed to have diminished range. They went to the site and discovered a bad coax connection: they replaced it and now it is working well. Ron AB8DT, has placed a digi repeater at the site.

The last problem was that folks were bringing in their radios to be programmed, but didn't have the right drivers or connectors (USB) to connect to the computer. Steve wants to increase the on-board memory for the computer: \$125.00. A motion to accept was made, seconded. The motion passed.

General Discussion on the upcoming Swap:

Bob Moe, M-A-L, reported he has sold 4 tables so far. We will meet at the "Steak-N-Shake", then go on to the school building: 7PM-9PM.

The tickets have already been paid for and Jack NY8D has the food taken care of. (Hot Dogs, coffee & donuts). The grand prize was discussed and we may choose a TYT Radio.

We then discussed deciding on what amount we would need for the change fund: Steve thought \$350.00 would be idea. Steve will be in charge of getting Nic-Naks.

New-Business: Jack NY8D asked to be informed about the Off-the-Air demonstrations, so he can include it in his what's happening news item.

A question came up about our club accepting donations and handling estate sales. We decided to put a contact site on the web site for receiving donations and handling estates...

V-E. 4 people took their test and one lady took her General. We got 2 Generals, 2 Techs.

Member-At-Large: No report

Thom made a motion to adjourn: Seconded by Rich the meeting ended at
7:24 PM

Respectively submitted
Rich K8JX Grara secretary.

Thom suggested we take a 10 minute break and come back for the demonstration of "Beverage" antennas, and how they work. By Ron K8DMR