

Grand Rapids Amateur Radio Association
Business Meeting Minutes
June 6, 2020

Corrections: On the Treasure Report under Expenses it stated we had Total Expenses of \$479.64, it should have stated \$279.64 in Total Expenses. That has been corrected.

The Business Meeting of the Grand Rapids Amateur Radio Association was called to order at 6:56pm by President Thom Durfee (K18W).

President's Report:

Thom Durfee (K18W)

There was a new ham who joined us for this meeting. He attended our meetings about five years ago but wanted to join us again. We welcomed him and eventually we all introduced ourselves.

Field day plans were discussed:

- We are having Field Day. Everyone overwhelmingly wanted to have the event.
- Field Day this year is on Saturday June 27 - Sunday June 28
- Field Day will be located at 13540 West Street, Cedar Springs, MI 49319
- We will be starting setup at 10am Saturday morning. Come when you can. Some may be early.
- The location is different than last year, but only down the street a little ways.
- We will be having a smaller Field Day due to the Coronavirus, planning on 2A (two stations plus we'll have a VHF/UHF station). Phone, CW, and Digital will be used.
- We won't have Bob Moe's (AC8ZX) trailer tower this year. So we'll be utilizing dipoles this year.
- We made a motion to rent a porta potty for the event. Passed.
- Under the circumstances we won't have a potluck this year. Everyone should plan to bring their own food. If not, there are restaurants nearby.

We also discussed our ham fest and if we were going to hold it. Currently we are still planning on having it. We are going to wait and see and make a final decision closer to the date.

Vice President's Report:

Jim Hessler (K8JH)

No Report

Treasure Report:

Steven Haeisen (KD8MEY)

Starting balance: \$4913.26

Income:

Membership Dues: \$200

Donation: \$15

Total Income: \$215

Expenses:

Renewing our web domains and hosting : \$79.64

Deposit to Cedar Springs for Field Day location: \$200

Total Expenses: \$279.64

December closing balance: \$4848.62

There was a motion to approve the treasurer's report. Passed.

Secretary Report:

Greg Stoike (KN4CK)

There was a motion to approve the previous meeting minutes. Passed.

On-Air-Director Report:

Tom Hansen (N8DGD)

(See Field Day plans in the president's report)

Off-Air-Director Report:

Ron Fredricks (K8DMR)

A demonstration featuring the Es'hail 2 geostationary Qatari satellite was given.

Technical Director Report:

Stephen Provost (AC8QE)

There is an issue with the repeater due to a misconfigured or a bad voter. It was worked on, but they are still running into some issues. They have a few more options to try.

It was expressed by a member that no matter what we do, it needs to be good and solid and we should go for whatever is needed.

Director-at-Large:

Chris Longcore (KE8LQH)

No Report

Liaison Director Report:

Joe Bell (WD8USA)

No Report

VE Team Report:

Stephen Provost (AC8QE)

From the Grand Rapids Amateur Radio Association Facebook page:

Amateur Radio License testing will be offered by the club Friday evening 06/12/20. It will be outdoors.

The location is the Red Cross Building at 1050 Fuller NE, Grand Rapids MI

We will be conducting the tests in the parking lot.

Testing will start at 630pm.

You can register on our website: <http://w8dc.org/pages/exams.html> please ignore the covid statement, since we are doing the testing outside.

We will be following CDC guidelines for covid.

Thus, we ask that you be in your car to take the test.

Please park with an empty parking spot between you and the next car.

We will provide a clip board and a pencil for the test.

I will have a person go from car to car handing out and picking up test booklets and score sheets.

Trustee Report

Tom Hansen (N8DGD)

For our new site near 5 Mile Ave NE and East Beltline Ave NE we'll need to decide how we'll do our antennas. We'll either use their antenna via a combiner or if we provide our own. We'll need commercial grade antennas.

Old Business:

Dues are due! Membership ended at the end of February.

New Business:

[From Jack Amelar (NY8D)] The Independent Repeater Association is going to have their 3rd annual Open House and Site Cleanup on Saturday September 26. There will be burgers and dogs and donuts.

[From Dave DeVos (KF8QL)] On behalf of the Michigan VHF-UHF Society, Dave wanted everyone to know that the biggest VHF contest of the year is on June 13-15. See <http://www.arrl.org/june-vhf> for the full details

Dave is also moving soon, so he is selling a bunch of antennas. Please see him to see what he has available.

[From Jack Amelar (NY8D)] Jack wanted to know about the migration from Yahoo Groups and Groups.io. Both are being used at the same time and we should make sure we have everything on Groups.io.

We adjourned at 7:36pm.

Submitted by Greg Stoike (KN4CK), Secretary.