

Grand Rapids Amateur Radio Association
Business Meeting Minutes
November 06, 2020

The Business Meeting of the Grand Rapids Amateur Radio Association was called to order at 7:02pm by Vice President Jim Hessler (K8JH).

President's Report:

No Report (Vacant)

Nomination Committee:

Ron Fredricks (K8DMR)

Nominations for Officers were called for and after no new nominations, nominations were closed.

There were no contested officer positions and a motion was made to elect the officers by acclamation. The officers for the next year are as followed:

- President: Jim Hessler (K8JH)
- Vice President: Greg Stoike (KN4CK)
- Secretary: Rich Ranta (K8JX)
- Treasure: Dave De Vos (KF8QL)
- Director-at-Large: Chris Longcore (KE8LQH)
- Liaison Director: Joe Bell (WD8USA)
- Off-Air-Director: Ron Fredricks (K8DMR)
- On-Air-Director: Tom Hansen (N8DGD)
- Technical Director: Stephen Provost (AC8QE)

Vice President's Report:

Jim Hessler (K8JH)

We are looking for future meeting places while the Red Cross is closed. If anyone has any ideas or places please contact Jim. We may need to pay rent and the club is willing to pay a small amount if needed. We are also considering an online meeting or a meeting over the repeater.

Treasure Report:

Steven Haeisen (KD8MEY)

Starting balance: \$5055.28

Income:

Hank's Estate Sale: \$1725.04

Total Income: \$1725.04

Expenses:

Plummers Porta-Potty: \$200.00

Club Insurance: \$430.00

Total Expenses: \$630.00

October closing balance: \$6150.32

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)

Since we can't get into the radio room, Tom is proposing that we can activate a park. If you are interested, contact Tom.

Off-Air-Director Report:

Ron Fredricks (K8DMR)

Past and some future presentations have been posted on the website.

Technical Director Report:

Stephen Provost (AC8QE)

Stephen gave a presentation of the RigPi. We would like to use this device to connect the radios from our club shack to the internet so members of the club can use it. Radio and antenna locations will be in fluctuation while we are testing it out and until we have access to the Radio Room.

There was a motion to approve up to \$1000 for the purposes of this project. Passed.

A group of people came together before the meeting to finish up weatherproofing the relay box for our 43ft vertical antenna. This relay box switches in coils so it can be used on various different bands.

Stephen talked with the Facilities Director at the Red Cross. Life EMS is looking to be the next owner of the building as of now. We don't know what their plans are for the building but we have requested advanced notice.

Director-at-Large:

Chris Longcore (KE8LQH)

No Report

Liaison Director Report:

Joe Bell (WD8USA)

In communications with Jeff Nawrot he would like the Red Cross equipment to be packed up and ready for shipment to the new building. No antennas, just Red Cross equipment in the Radio Room.

There was a simplex test that the Red Cross had in September and was a success.

The Red Cross will have an emergency communications drill on November 14th starting at 9am until 18:00.. This is a Winlink exercise.

VE Team Report:**Stephen Provost (AC8QE)**

Last month we had 5 people who passed their exams.

The FCC is proposing a \$50 fee for new ham radio licenses, upgrades and vanity applications. Contact the FCC and your local congressman and express your opinion regarding this.

Trustee Report**Tom Hansen (N8DGD)**

No Report

Old Business:

From Greg Stoike (KN4CK): For a few years now Greg has been working on updating the Club's Constitution and By-Laws. He was waiting for a good time to present these proposals and will shortly. After this is done, we'll go through the process of notifying all the members of the club.

New Business:

From Stephen Provost (AC8QE): Stephen has a source for someone with an embroidery machine if anyone wants a shirt, hat, or anything else done.

From Steven Haueisen (KD8MEY): He made a motion to make a \$250 donation to the IRA. Our club routinely donates to the IRA every year. Passed.

From Jack Amelar (NY8D): New Hams Dinner, who knows if it's going to happen this year but is wondering if GRARA wants to be a part of it? If usually happens in March.

There was a motion for GRARA be a participant in the possibility of a New Hams Dinner next year including a donation of \$30. Passed.

From Jim Hessler (K8JH): Jim wants everyone to be aware of that with all the changes and proposals the FCC has brought forward lately, our only real voice we have is with the ARRL and is encouraging everyone to support them.

From Tom Bosscher (K8TB): The yahoo email list is going away. Please subscribe to us over at groups.io. The information can be found at our website.

From Dave De Vos (KF8QL): Dave wanted everyone to know that the John Ball Park Zoo contacted the club a few years ago to help them erect a tower to help in bird tracking. Tom Bosscher and Dave have been working with them and have helped them put up the tower.

Due to the current Covid-19 situation and to help with people who can't attend the meetings due to other concerns, we should look into setting up a remote viewing of our meeting. This might attract more members and should be a standard going forward, that every meeting that we have is accessible to people remotely.

We adjourned at 8:29pm.

Submitted by Greg Stoike (KN4CK), Secretary.