

Grand Rapids Amateur Radio Association
Business Meeting Minutes
October 02, 2020

The Business Meeting of the Grand Rapids Amateur Radio Association was called to order at 7:00pm by Vice President Jim Hessler (K8JH).

President's Report:

No Report (Vacant)

Vice President's Report:

Jim Hessler (K8JH)

Jim wanted to thank everyone who worked on the swap. Positive comments were had and it went well. If we do it again, we'll need to work on parking.

The sale of items from Hank's estate has gone well and almost all of the items have sold.

Treasure Report:

Steven Haeisen (KD8MEY)

No Report (absent)

Secretary Report:

Greg Stoike (KN4CK)

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

On-Air-Director Report:

Tom Hansen (N8DGD)

No Report

Off-Air-Director Report:

Ron Fredricks (K8DMR)

No Report

Technical Director Report:

Stephen Provost (AC8QE)

The 5 Mile transmit site, the coax is being provided but we need to provide the antenna and the antenna bracket to attach it to the tower. A Hustler G7 Vertical Antenna is slated to be used.

A motion to pay Tom for the purchase of said antenna in the amount of \$225. Passed.

Due to a recent ruling by the FCC, the 3.5GHz band for amateur radio will "sunset". Due to this we will need to move our 3.5GHz gear to another frequency.

There was a motion for \$600 for the purchase of needed equipment to move our 3.5GHz links to another frequency. Passed

Due to Covid-19 we have radios that aren't being used. We would like to remote these radios using a device like an MFJ-1234 RigPi. The goal is to give members of the club who are in good standing an account for the RigPi. This would also be future proof if we end up moving. We

could remote our radios from anywhere. We could use this system for emergencies and showing this system in places like classrooms. Stephen is going to test out this system and get back to the club to see if this will work for our club and what we will need if we implement this.

We need to replace the 43ft vertical antenna matching box. Bob will be working on creating a new box.

Director-at-Large:

Chris Longcore (KE8LQH)

No Report

Liaison Director Report:

Joe Bell (WD8USA)

We were having some tech issues with the VHF/UHF antennas on the tower and Joe and Steven have permission to go into the radio room to try and fix it for the SET exercise that will follow in a few weeks.

If the weather is good, Joe will operate at Fisk Knob.

Joe has talked with Jeff Nawrot and has been told that the move is being delayed but not canceled. The Red Cross expects to be moved into the new building in February. Jeff said that the chances are good that we may be able to stay with the people who are looking into buying the building but we really need a plan B.

Sometime we will need to package up any of the Red Cross equipment so they can be sent to the new building. So we need to have this inventoried by the end of the year.

Everyone needs to check with any connections they have to see if they can help provide a new meeting place. Places like a VFW, a church, a spare room in a school, a township hall, a fire station, salvation army, and/or a community center.

VE Team Report:

Stephen Provost (AC8QE)

We are hoping that we can at least have testing inside the Red Cross during the cold months. We had a few people take the tests and most passed.

Trustee Report

Tom Hansen (N8DGD)

No Report

Nomination Committee:

Ron Fredricks (K8DMR)

Most positions have at least one person running for the position. We are still in the nomination phase, so these may change before our next meeting.

- President: Jim Hessler (K8JH)
- Vice President: Greg Stoike (KN4CK)
- Secretary: Open

- Treasure: Steven Haueisen (KD8MEY)
- Director-at-Large: Chris Longcore (KE8LQH)
- Liaison Director: Joe Bell (WD8USA)
- Off-Air-Director: Dave De Vos (KF8QL)
- On-Air-Director: Tom Hansen (N8DGD)
- Technical Director: Stephen Provost (AC8QE)

Ron has been going around getting information and seeing if people are interested. If you are interested, please contact Ron.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

From Dave De Vos (KF8QL): Dave and Tom Bosscher (K8TB) have been working with the Zoo on their Motus Wildlife Tracking System. They will soon be putting up a tower and antennas and all related equipment.

We adjourned at 8:13pm.

Submitted by Greg Stoike (KN4CK), Secretary.