

Grand Rapids Amateur Radio Association

Business Meeting Minutes

February 05, 2021

The Meeting was held on ZOOM Video conferencing.

The meeting started at 7:03PM

President: Jim had us introduce ourselves. He didn't have anything special to report, but was interested in the relationship we are now having with The Grand Valley State University as a club. We have another meeting and we may be able to hold the meetings at either the Allendale Campus, or Down Town Grand Rapids Campus. More later.

Vice-President: NR

Secretary: The executive minutes have been e-mailed and posted on the web site.

The newsletter is still a work in progress. It was accepted as read, with Ron pointing out that the cut away quote may give the reader a distorted understanding of the quote. The motion to accept: Steve P. and 2nd by Dave D. It was passed.

Treasurers:

Starting Balance: \$6391.95

Ending Balance \$ 644195

A question came up about what bills we may have coming in the future: Dave doesn't anticipate any bills in the near future except insurance and maybe post office box and tower site rent. A motion was made to accept the report: By Ron, 2nd by Craig. It passed.

Dave then brought up the results of his investigating Web-Site payment services. He presented three companies: Visa, Pay-Pal and Google. Pay-Pal was the most economical service he had checked out. We then had a general discussion on experiences members have had with different as well as with Pay-Pal. The consensus from other clubs that are using Pay-Pal now, is Pay-Pal works out best. We looked at the benefits of having an on-line payment method, and this seems like it would work out well for us. We can still pay by mail, using the Post-Office Box, or by paying in person at a club meeting.

A motion was made to have Dave De Vos create an account with Pay-Pal and install it on the web=site. The motion was made by John, 2nd by Jack. The motion passed. Dave thought he could have it up and running this weekend.

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Dave also stated that WWW.HAMCATION.COM will have Ham related forums on line next weekend. You can visit Hamcation.com for further information.

ON-THE-AIR: Tom said he had worked 34 stations during "Winter-Field-Day". No other member seemed to have participated.

Trustee: Tom addressed the weak signal the 147.260 MHz repeater has experienced. When we first moved the repeater to its' new location, Tom measured the RF power out as 8 watts. He later visited the site and the power was up to 30 watts. Thanks to the I.R.A., we'll be using a higher power liner to bring the output up to 60 to 70 watts.

OFF-THE_AIR: Ron is encouraging all interested members to attend a web-cast on Modulation systems, propagation, and other very interesting electronic topics. The Web-cast will be on February 17, 2021. For further information and a very interesting history of an old electronics company, visit WWW.ROHDES-SCHWARZ.COM/HF

Technical: / V.E. Steve said there isn't any VE sessions scheduled till he can locate a building that will allow 10 to 20 people, spaced 6 feet apart. It is too cold to hold any kind of VE session in the garage. The Technical project with remote operating is waiting for DX Engineering equipment and for the weather to change so we can get antenna's up. Then a question was brought up wondering how we might be able to give On-Line VE Exams. Ron suggested perhaps using the same software the colleges are using for their at home learning. But we'd use them for VE Exam. We left with us watching for further software development and also, for our finding another place to hold VE exams.

New Business: Tom wanted to know if Dave or Greg had received a letter from T & W. They haven't.

Jack, NY8D, we should post on flyers that we will be holding a Ham Swap at the home school building this coming Fall. We should make a point of having it posted on the ARRL web site.

Also, that Dayton Hamvention is cancelled. We won't be needing to rent B & B this year.

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A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Dave 2nd by Rich.

It passed. The meeting ended at 8:13PM

Respectively submitted

Grara Club Secretary

Rich Ranta K8JX

Following is a partial listing of the members who were present at the Zoom Conference; KD8QXC, KC8QFC K8JX, NY8D, KF8QL, W8QZ, K8JH, KN4CK, KE8DOJ, K8DMR, K8CAN, AC8QC, N8VOJ, N8UXN, Ryan Milinoski, KB8KV, KE8EAL, K8ZKL, KB8TYJ.