

# Grand Rapids Amateur Radio Association

## Business Meeting Minutes

January 01, 2021

The Business Meeting of the Grand Rapids Amateur Radio Association was called to order at 7:05pm by President Jim Hessler K8JH. Due to covid-19 infection spread, the meeting could only be held on Zoom. It was open to the public.

### **President's Report:**

Jim said due to the not being able to hold an open meeting for all the members to attend, He thought it best to hold off on presenting the updated Constitution – By-laws till a later date. Greg and a few others are working on it. Jim also mentioned that the FCC will be increasing license fees. This will take them time. Also, the VE testing is on hold. It may start again in February. Jim asked if there were any additions, or corrections to last month's minutes: There wasn't. I was passed.

**Vice President's Report:** No Report )

**Secretary Report:** No Report

### **Treasure Report:**

Starting balance:       **\$6238.92**

December closing balance: **\$6391.95**

**On-Air-Director Report:** No Report.

Steven KD8MEY has a question around if and how we were going to hold "Winter Field-Day". Greg said it is usually on January 30<sup>th</sup>. Not sure if we would hold it at individuals homes, or elsewhere.

**Off-Air-Director Report:** Ron is holding off on having a presentation till we can have a meeting place. He also is looking for help in investigating "The Emergency Data Network". Contact Ron if you're interested.

**Technical Director Report:**

Stephen couldn't attend the video meeting, but Tom N8DGD presented the report. We have successfully moved the transmitter over to the 5 mile and East Beltline site. But the RF power was very low. 30 watts. I.R.A. has a linear that will product 60 watts. We then had a general discussion on power levels of linear..

**Director-at-Large:** Chris wanted to know if there was a way to get Tom KI8W's merchandise out of the Red Cross Building. He will be able to. But they have to check with the Red Cross folks first.

Liaison Director Report: Joe said we can stay at the RED-X, till they sell or move. The building has NOT been sold yet- The hope is that EMS will buy the building and the club can remain- **No sale yet however the communications Dept has decided to move our stuff over B-4 anyone else does** Then we'll have to decide on where to move too. Joe had also heard that one should update their by-laws every few years. )

**VE Team Report:** No Report

**Trustee Report** The Transmitter has been successfully moved over to the 5 mile and East Beltline site. Tom checked with Dave if he had received a bill from T & W: he hadn't.

**Old Business:**

None

**New Business:** Dave De Vos has been holding talks with staff and students at GVSU regarding relocating GRARA's meeting area to their University He brought up that we would like to be able to have a meeting room, an area to hold our equipment and antennas. They responded favorably, Dave is going to meet with them to further discuss the matter within 2 weeks. It sounded like they were thinking of locating us to the Meijer Broadcast Centre. Located just near the S-Curve.

Dave is also checking on having dues collected on the internet, with pay-pal. More later.

Tom brought up that the I.R.A. is checking out an "On-Line" VE exam session This isn't a I.R.A. program,. He states that the FCC has given their approval to this system. We were all curious how this would work. An on-line VE test?

We adjourned at 8:05 pm.  
Respectively Submitted  
By Richie Ranta K8JX  
Secretary