

Grand Rapids Amateur Radio Association

General Meeting Minutes

May 7, 2021

In attendance at the meeting: There were 25 people present at the meeting.

The General Business Meeting of the Grand Rapids Amateur Radio Association was called to order at 7:04pm by President Jim Hessler K8JH. Due to covid-19 safety concerns, the meeting was held in the garage of the Life-EMS building. It was open to the public.

President's Report: Jim had us introduce ourselves. He also passed around a sympathy card for the family of Sheneman, Robert "Bob" K8EIO.

Jim has found that EMS is agreeable and accommodating. They shared with Jim that they plan on remodeling the office area of the building and that should take about 4 to 6 weeks. They also plan on remodeling the garage area to suit their needs. We do however, need to remove our equipment from the Radio Room. This is for the protection of our equipment. Jim has asked for volunteers to do this after this meeting is over.

Jim mention that shouldn't take long.

Secretary: Jim asked if the secretary had anything to report: Rich just stated that both last month's Business and Executive meeting minutes were posted on the web site. Nothing further to report. A motion was made to approve the minutes by Steve, seconded by Mike. They passed.

Rich also wanted to thank Dave KF8QL for sending him the QRM issue from 1993. That contained the information about when GRARA was first formed. Rich also thanked Jack NY8D for suppling all the club event information, without, which, there wouldn't have been much of a newsletter.

Vice-President NR

Treasurer

Dave started his report by stating that when he was president of GRARA, back in 1991, Rich k8jx, who was president of MARA, would send him a copy of MARA's newsletter,. They both had a very friendly editorial relationship.

. My Treasurer Report for April 2021

March's starting balance was \$ 6021.16

Income totaled \$ 159.27
Expenditures totaled \$ 120.00
March's ending balance is \$ 6060.43

- Income listed was all from membership renewals
 - The only expenditure this month was the tower rent for the remote site
- Dave also shared that there is a SSB net on 2meter 145.140 Mhz. USB.

Steve made a motion to approve the treasurer's report: seconded by Jim. It passed.

On-The-Air Director. Tom just wanted people to remember that Field Day is chaired by Tom H. The crew who will be working FD is Ron-Dave-Tom. Tom also mentioned that we will have a DX QSL Card Checker at the swap. We have to add this information to the Swap flyer.

Off-The-Air Director.

Ron couldn't attend tonight's meeting, but sent his report in.

- (1) Working on bringing in a virtual speaker from DX Engineering (their CEO) for a virtual ZOOM presentation at our September GRARA swap. That assumes a suitable "hot spot" is available (if needed) at the Home School Book Building. Will set up extra chairs and a lap-top with large monitor in back portion of the gym for his live presentation. Rest of time we will run DX-Engineering recorded U-Tube presentations (there are many).
- (2) Once we start meeting in a nicer place than the Red-X garage I want to show a couple recorded U-Tube ham radio presentations by our own Quentin Schultze, K8QS, professor at Calvin College in their Communications School. (See Jack Amalar's May monthly activity update for the URLs). There is a whole series of ham radio podcasts on various topics Quent recorded with other amateurs.
- (3) Going with Dave Devos and Tom Hansen next Friday to a live meeting at GVSU downtown with Justin from the W8GVU ham club and professor Nick Baine from Engineering. Will discuss/finalize FD operations at Allendale campus and remote site operation from Keller Engineering Lab Building rooftop downtown.

Ron Fredricks
K8DMR

VE: Steve reported that at this time, we will be continuing using the Rockford facility. Tom B. has taken care of the tables and chairs and clipboards for the IRA swap.

TECH: Steve then gave a demonstration of the new remote operational software he is using. This should allow us to access the Radio Rooms equipment from any computer or even smartphone.

NOTE: Due to a temperature sensitivity, the secretary couldn't stay to record the Old Business or New Business.

I do have an addendum: The VE exams are back at the Red-X building, now called the EMS Building. The exams will be in the garage area. Visit the w8dc.org web site for further information.

My heartfelt apology for omitting the last section of the meeting.

We ended the meeting at 7:45PM

Respectively submitted,
Richie Ranta K8JX
Secretary