

# Grand Rapids Amateur Radio Association

## **Business Meeting - May 6, 2022**

The meeting was called to order at 7:20 PM by President Greg Stoike N8HR.

### President's Report – Greg N8HR

Next month's meeting will take place at the IRA hamfest at Hudsonville fairgrounds. Potluck starts at 6:30, meeting will be shortly after. **IRA hamfest begins at 8:00 AM the following Saturday morning.**

GRARA antenna has been temporarily taken down for roof renovation.

Member introductions were carried out at this point in the meeting.

### Vice President's Report – Steven KD8MEY

Steven has been promoting GRARA meetings on the repeaters and nets.

Richard K8JX has updated the club officers list on the ARRL web site.

### Treasurer's Report – Dave (presented by Jared N8CZ)

- Starting Balance: \$12,225.01
- Income: \$407.51
- Expenditures: \$388.01
- General Fund Ending Balance: \$8075.55
- K8EIO Directed Fund Balance: \$4167.99
- Total Balance: \$12,244.54

### Secretary's Report – Dave KD8DB

Recap of bullet points from last month, and member count (41).

Mike MacDonald: Club has been re-listed on the ARRL-affiliated club list. Omission was largely a clerical oversight.

### GVSU Report – Justin N8FCC

GVSU summer semester has begun. Next week Saturday (5/14) will be the trip to Big Sable Lighthouse in Ludington. Those interested in operating at the lighthouse should contact Justin for signup.

GVSU club is working on a repeater.

### Tech Director's Report – Stephen AC8QE

VE report: 15 participants. 8 Technicians, 2 Generals, 2 Tech-General upgrades, 1 General-Extra upgrade.

**Going forward, new Technicians will receive an email from the FCC to submit payment.**

GRARA antenna has been taken down for roof renovation. No news yet on reinstallation.

Tom Bosscher K8TB: New repeater equipment is in Tom's basement for some final tweaks. Will be transmitting at 75 W once installed.

### Director-At-Large's Report – Lisa W8LSA

Lisa has a card for Wendell Broome's wife. Wendell passed away recently, and was involved with the club for quite some time. Will need to get the mailing address from ULS.

Lisa is continuing to work on club history, and has traced the club's callsign back to 1913. Original callsign was 8DC, and the W prefix was added after World War I.

Mike MacDonald presented Lisa with a small stack of club fliers and press photos for archival.

### Trustee's Report – Tom N8DGD

Repeater technical datasheets have been updated and are all set for another year.

Current .26 repeater is 70-75 W, and new repeater is allowed to go higher power.

### On-Air Director – Jared N8CZ

Field Day site has been confirmed by GVSU. Also have approved that we can have a cookout and provide food for members. Jared has assessed the wireless network coverage at the site, and has found good coverage over nearly the entire site. Guest network will be available, and a faculty network sign-in will be available as a fallback.

If anybody is planning to bring tents, tables, chairs, etc., please contact Jared, as we need to collect an inventory to plan the layout.

Anything going in the ground more than 12 inches will require a site survey from MissDig. There may be some remaining infrastructure from the apartments/dorms that used to be present on the site. Jared has contacted the university to get the MissDig survey.

### Off-Air Directory – Madison (presented by Jared)

Madison was unable to attend tonight on account of senior projects.

Officers discussed possible events and outreach opportunities. Kent County Youth Fair in Lowell - Lowell club has had difficulty with this in the past due to HF interference with rides and other equipment. Would need to run a remote station. Mike Wolthuis may have a remote station available for use.

Confluence Festival in September. This is a STEM and arts festival. GVSU engineering is planning to have a booth.

GVSU did an antenna workshop to build end-fed half-wave antennas. Only took about 2 hours.

GRARA could put on a soldering workshop for those who want to learn how to solder.

A special-event station for Art Prize is also on the table.

Field Day site is directly next to the stadium at GVSU Allendale campus.

## Old Business

### Chris KE8LQH - Contest results

QRP challenge on 2 m, and QRP challenge on HF (5 W or less). No winners to announce.

May contest: VHF contest on IRA system. 147.160 MHz for the local Grand Rapids node. Make contacts outside of the regular nets. Starts tomorrow, runs until 3rd Saturday in May. Rules will be posted on IRA and GRARA Facebook pages. HF contest: Contact the most states. Any mode (except digital), 100 W power limit, 160 m and up. One point per state.

Stephen AC8QE - Hamvention rental house presentation:

Three bedrooms, five beds, several large TVs. Large kitchen. Designed to house 10 people with some bed sharing. Four people have signed up so far. Leaving Thursday morning around 10:00 AM.

Jack NY8D - Hamvention sites: 9543, 9544

Greg N8HR - Constitution is being officially presented to the club. Treasurer bonding requirement has been stricken, as no other popular clubs were found to have this in their constitutions. **Voting will take place at the July meeting.**

Motion to present the constitution from Jack NY8D, Justin N8FCC seconded.

## New Business

Tim offering to donate General class study book. Accepted by Daniel Foley.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.