

# Grand Rapids Amateur Radio Association

## Executive Meeting - Jan. 28, 2022

The Executive Meeting of the Grand Rapids Amateur Radio Association was called to order at 7:06 PM by President Greg Stoike N8HR, and the meeting began with introductions.

### Officers in Attendance

- Dave DeVos KF8QL - Treasurer
- Greg Stoike N8HR - President
- Dave Britten KZ8SQL - Secretary
- Lisa Britten W8LSA - Director at Large
- Steven Haueisen KD8MEY - Vice President
- Stephen Provost AC8QE - Technical Director
- Jared Bergeron N8CZ - On-Air Director

The meeting was carried on in a somewhat informal manner, with loose adherence to the officers' reporting format. The reports below were interspersed with lots of excellent discussion and diversion on overall club plans.

### Technical Director Report – Stephen Provost AC8QE

June for Life EMS radio room opening. Handicap accessibility is still a concern.

### President's Report – Greg Stoike N8HR

Winter field day is this weekend.

Chris Longcore is setting up a monthly contest. Most stations worked, most states worked. GRARA Repeaters (147.260) & VHF/UHF/HF (TBD).

### On-Air Director's Report – Jared Bergeron N8CZ

Winter field day plan - Last year's site is still available. Ravine Center. University is a bit skittish with weather and campfires, which may pose a problem for cookouts. Jared will proceed with filling out paperwork.

Stephen P. proposes using a tabletop grill. Some discussion of having a pot-luck/late dinner to encourage participation and socialization. Tower trailer may be available for the event, and possibly donated to the club at a later date.

GRARA will probably run 2 or 3 stations. Logging: N1MM or M3FJP

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

Looking for ideas and recommendations for position. Dave DeVos suggests contacting and surveying membership, promoting the club, etc. Lisa likes the idea of opening up the club meetings to Zoom more regularly to increase participation and awareness. More sophisticated audio equipment would be

needed. Tech Director Stephen P. might be able to provide some bluetooth microphones. Shared documents can be presented directly from the computer being used to join the meeting.

GRARA social media assessment: No Twitter or Instagram accounts. Youtube W8DC channel has no activity since 2013.

Dave DeVos suggests having a social media manager office. Greg is in agreement. Lisa interested in taking on this task at least initially.

W8DC club flyers - need to print more, and update content. Proposing posting of flyers in public locations or businesses to advertise the club.

## GVSU Report

W8GVU club meeting will be two hours before the GRARA meeting in the same room.

## Vice President's Report – Steven Haueisen KD8MEY

- Antenna building/repair/upgrade session (Stephen P. looking for tower climber)
- Open radio room (keep socializing in a separate room)
- CW classes (Stephen P.: Tom Hansen has done this in the past)
- Presentations/classes/workshops from subject-matter experts, e.g. soldering
- Fox hunt and/or geocaching

Dave DeVos suggesting some big-picture and long-term planning meetings. Would like to address the quality of the GRARA repeater. Also radio room planning and design.

Stephen P. would like to do some inter-club activities. POTA, Spark-in-a-Park, etc. Build a power distribution unit with Dave DeVos. Steven H. proposing a Yagi-antenna build prior to a fox hunt event.

Greg would like to do some kind of monthly event and agrees a fox hunt would be a good choice. A balloon launch is another possibility. No amateur radio license needed for these activities, since they only require the participants to receive a signal.

Jared can get some offset attenuator boards/kits produced. These are through-hole kits that are relatively easy to solder. Also likes the idea of monthly contests.

Assorted other ideas: Special-event station, other non-radio social events, tangible goods for members - t-shirts, patches. (Steven H.: personalized goods)

## Old Business

Food expenses at the January potluck were duplicated. Tom Hansen brought in food and was expecting to get paid back. Planning a motion to cover his expenses at Friday's meeting.

## New Business

The officers are planning to have the next officers' meeting on Feb. 25 at 6:00 PM, one week prior to the next general club meeting.

We adjourned the meeting at 8:56 PM. Minutes prepared by Dave Britten KZ8SQL, GRARA Secretary