

Grand Rapids Amateur Radio Association

Business Meeting - May 5, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by President Greg Stoike N8HR. The meeting began with introductions. 26 attendees.

President's Report- Greg N8HR

Our June meeting will take place at the Hudsonville Fairgrounds following the Friday-night pre-hamfest dinner. IRA Hamfest takes place at 8:00 AM the following morning.

Vice President's Report- Steven KD8MEY

Steven may have a spare 220 MHz radio to donate to the radio room (still TBD). We have 220-MHz-capable antennas on the club tower.

Secretary's Report- Dave KD8DB

Michigan QSO Party score still pending. Minutes distributed via email.

Motion to approve by Steven KD8MEY, seconded by Eric N8LUG. Minutes approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report- Dave KF8QL

My GRARA Treasurers Report for March & April 2023 is as follows:

- Our starting balance this period was \$6985.79
- Our Income totaled \$2178.88 from memberships & donations
- The expenditures this period totaled \$2950.39 for buying a new/used Flexradio 6400M and other items.
- The general fund ending total balance is \$6214.28

Dave has renewed our state and federal non-profit tax forms (501c3).

Motion to approve by Thom KI8W, seconded by Tom N8DGD. Approved unanimously.

Liaison Director's Report- Jim K8JH

Nothing to report.

Tech Director's Report- Stephen AC8QE

Last month's VE session gave us 3 new technicians, one general upgrade, and 3 extras.

A lot of people have been going to the radio room on the open days.

Life EMS wireless network is available for use inside the radio room.

On-Air Director's Report- Chris KE8LQH

Radio room attendance has been good. About 6 or 7 people last Wednesday. Grounding is very nearly complete. Flex radio is up and running - instructional sessions are still pending. Dave DeVos KF8QL is proposing doing one-on-one or small-group training sessions for interested parties.

Michigan QSO Party went very well.

Radio room is open Wednesdays 4:00 - 6:00 PM (or later), Sundays 1:00 - 4:00 PM.

A gentleman traveling through town in his camper heard the Tuesday-night net, looked up GRARA on the web, and stopped by last week.

Director-At-Large's Report- Lisa W8LSA

Those coming to the potluck/meeting in Hudsonville next month should bring a chair (e.g. folding camping chair).

Lisa will try inviting news organizations to our Field Day setup once it's official.

Trustee's Report- Tom N8DGD

MI Repeater Council may be having a meeting at the IRA Hamfest. Not all details known yet - could be a virtual meeting.

Old Business

Mike AA8MG investigated the idea of personalized name tags. His employer has a printer/engraver in house. He is going to check with a sign company next.

The club will have to spend \$300-500 at National Ladder & Scaffold to get safe climbing gear. Two sets are needed, in case a second person has to rescue the primary climber. Dave KF8QL says our insurance policy doesn't cover tower climbing, and we shouldn't buy climbing gear or officially climb the tower.

New Business

There is now a picnic table available for use outside the Life EMS building.

Meeting adjourned at 7:38 PM. Minutes prepared by GRARA Secretary Dave Britten KD8DB.