

# Grand Rapids Amateur Radio Association

## **Business Meeting - Mar. 1, 2024**

Meeting called to order at 7:02 PM. We began with introductions.

## President's Report - Steven KD8MEY

Tom Behler has notified the club that a Skywarn table will be available at the IRA hamfest.

The Get Out of the Cabin Dinner will be at the Hudsonville Pizza Ranch two weeks from today.

Justin N8FCC has filed our proposals for Field Day.

## Vice President's Report - Lisa W8LSA

The club's Roger That event at the Grand Rapids Museum featured a total of 8 members, with lots of demos, and lots of kids making third-party contacts. Estimated at least 40 kids. We also collected contact info from kids and adults that were interested in learning more about GRARA and amateur radio. We may be able to set up at the event again next year. Pictures are available on Facebook.

Anybody who is interested in Skywarn should attend this year's Kent/Ottawa-County Skywarn training on 3/28, 6:30-9:30 at Hudsonville High School.

Lisa will be substituting for Stephen AC8QE at next week's VE session.

## Secretary's Report - Mike AA8MG

Mike is at home tonight due to illness. Minutes from the last meeting will be distributed later.

## On-Air Director's Report - Chris KE8LQH

Radio room will be open Saturdays for the foreseeable future thanks to Thom KI8W. Hours will be approximately 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM.

Wednesday hours are from 4:00 PM until 6:00 or 7:00 PM, Sundays from 1:00 PM until 4:00 PM.

## Off-Air Director's Report - Jeff

Club was looking to do a raffle in the future, but would need state certification. May do a silent auction instead.

Jeff is planning to open up the radio room the second Thursday of the month for construction and improvements.

Solar flux is very high right now, and contacts will likely be more successful in higher bands.

Big remaining radio room task is cleanup of coax and installation on ground panels, ideally before lightning becomes more common this year. Jeff would like some assistance with connector crimping. Cables look to be in good shape.

Patch panel is being reworked to allow more easily disconnecting equipment.

Tonight's post-meeting presentation will be about the grounding panel.

## Tech Director's Report - Stephen AC8QE

Stephen needs some assistance with VE sessions at least in the short term due to health issue keeping him at home.

## Old Business

Constitution has to be in order before we can have a raffle. Needs to be submitted to the state for certification.

Ron K8DMR has been chosen as the Ham of the Year for 2024.

## New Business

Bob Heil has passed away.

Repeater #2 (Fusion repeater) will need to be moved in the next 12-14 months. The rehab building is being demolished and rebuilt.

Stephen AC8QE is still working out an AirBNB rental for Hamvention.

Meeting adjourned at 7:27 PM.