

# Gloucester County Amateur Radio Club

## Board of Directors ZOOM Meeting Minutes

### Wednesday, March 17, 2021



Meeting opened @ 1902 Hours via ZOOM by President Tony Starr, K3TS.

#### Attendance :

- President Tony Starr, K3TS
- Treasurer Al Arrison, KB2AYU
- Recording Secretary Karl Frank, W2KBF
- Corresponding Secretary Ron Block, NR2B
- Director Chuck Colabrese, WA2TML
- Director Jeff Garth, WB2ZBN
- Director Herb Dyer, KT2Y
- Director Jim Clark, KA2OSV
- Director Bill Price, NJ2S
- Trustee Jim Wright, N2GXJ
- Member John O'Connell, K2QA
- Member Jon Pearce, WB2MNF
- Member Steve Farney, W2SEF
- Member Mike Pecorini, K2MRP
- Member Frank Romeo, N3PUU

The minutes from the February 17 BoD meeting were read and approved.

**Treasurer's Report :** Al KB2AYU reported YTD income of \$3325 and YTD expenses of \$1034 for a net gain of approximately \$2290. The Club roster lists 163 total members, 14 of which have Life Memberships, and 1 Honorary member, leaving 148 that pay dues annually. As of last Monday, 87 have paid and 62 have not. Tony K3TS said he would send out a dues reminder on the email reflector. Al KB2AYU can provide a target list.

Al KB2AYU received an insurance quote that (unexpectedly) includes full replacement cost of the Club-house trailer (\$115,000) at an annual cost of over \$1300. The cost of this policy has almost doubled over the last few years. The BoD thought this was a bit steep and Tony said he would ask around for a new insurance carrier since the new policy would not take effect until October.

#### Committee Reports :

**Field Day :** Vinnie N4NYY was not present so Tony K3TS lead the discussion. There has been concern that the Wine Festival may attempt to occupy some of our Field Day space with tents, etc. Herb KT2Y plans to put up caution tape to prevent cars from parking in our area and Ron NR2B will find out from Vinnie N4NYY who his contact is at 4H and send them a letter asking that the Wine Festival personnel stay out of our area because of the guy wires, etc. Al KB2AYU's truck might not be available to provide power so, in a post-meeting note, Bill NJ2S said he will look at having the radiator for the Club generator repaired or replaced.

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**Hamfest :** There was a brief discussion of the decisions taken at the BoD meeting last month regarding fees (i.e. \$10 admission, \$10 tailgating, \$12 for tables uphill near pavilions). No changes were made. Bill NJ2S suggested that the “QLF” foot key be brought out again and a 50/50 contest be used to raise funds. He also suggested the possibility of a Foxhunt. Jeff WB2ZBN noted that an oscillator (built by Peter Harow W2QB) already was attached to the key. Bill has contacted the Hog Day Afternoon Catering and confirms they will sell food at the hamfest.

**Contest :** Tony K3TS reported that conditions were poor during the recent ARRL DX Phone contest with not enough participation from DX stations. CQ WPX SSB Contest is coming up on March 27 and 28 and the Russian DX Contest is the weekend. Tony has not heard back from Bill W0MHK about heading the DX Committee, but Bill continues to provide material for the Crosstalk.

**Technical :** Jon WB2MNF shared his screen to show pictures of what he termed “what Frank N3PUU has been up to”. A number of RPi/SDRs that used to form a “rat nest” underneath the satellite operating table have now been neatly reorganized in a rack in a wall-mounted cabinet. Jon also showed that paneling has been removed from walls to facilitate the grounding project. The old paneling was in bad shape, so Frank located new paneling (4 sheets are required) for \$18/sheet. Jon noted that grounding security is compromised by the CAT 5 networking cable that runs from the HF room to the Networking Cabinet in the VHF room. This is being addressed by routing flexible conduit so that CAT5 can be replaced with non-conductive fiber optic cable.

**Tech Saturday :** Jon had planned to do an Arduino Workshop on May 8 but decided to postpone this until June so that May 8 could be a Welcome Back session.

### **Old Business**

Chuck WA2TML asked what was happening with the Ten Tec 544 that was donated to the Club. Jon WB2MNF reported that it was at the Clubhouse and Tony K3TS said it has not been tested yet.

### **New Business**

Ron NR2B submitted a recommendation to the BoD that all projects approved and funded by the Club should have a Name, Expiration Date, and a Project Leader who will provide monthly updates at the General Membership Meetings as to progress and funds spent. Al KB2AYU already tracks project funding but this is not reported as part of the operating budget. Ron’s recommendation was received favorably and Ron was asked to draft an amendment to the By Laws for consideration at the next BoD meeting.

Bill NJ2S and Al KB2AYU plan to take down a 35 - 40 foot tower at Ken Newman N2CQ (SK)’s house in Woodbury. Bill NJ2S asked if the Club might be able to use it for a 6 meter beam. Bill NJ2S also is interested in setting up a SDR at the Club station that can be used for remote monitoring using WebSDR. There would need to be some provision to disable this SDR when a local transmitter at W2MMD is in use. Al KB2AYU noted that the IC-7300 has been available for remote access but has seen very little use.

**New Members :** Jeff WB2ZBN received applications from :

- **Douglas Dersch KD2VQA, Mullica Hill**
- **Larry Dial Jr. KI2LDD, Mickleton**
- **Matt Katsoris WV20, Franklinville**
- **Rolf Wurmbach KD2VQG, Pilesgrove**

Membership of all four was approved by vote.

**Meeting adjourned @ 2015 Hours (motion by Jim KA2OSV, seconded by Ron NR2B).**

**Respectfully submitted,  
Karl Frank, W2KBF  
Recording Secretary**