

# Gloucester County Amateur Radio Club Board of Directors ZOOM Meeting Minutes Wednesday, April 21, 2021



Meeting opened @ 1901 Hours via ZOOM by President Tony Starr, K3TS.

## Attendance :

- President Tony Starr, K3TS
- Vice President Jeff Welsh, KD2AZI
- 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
- Director Bob Durham, W2RAD
- Member Jon Pearce, WB2MNF
- Member Steve Farney, W2SEF
- Member Frank Romeo, N3PUU
- Member John Hill, W2HUV
- Member Sheldon Parker, K2MEN

Recording Secretary Karl W2KBF summarized the minutes from the March 17 BOD meeting and these were approved by vote of the attendees.

**New Member :** Jeff WB2ZBN reported a membership application from Russell Guise Sr, KD2WDM from Franklinville, which was accepted by vote.

**Treasurer Report :** Al KB2AYU reported YTD income of \$3616, about \$3400 of which was from dues. Expenses were \$1563 for a net gain of \$2053. At this point, 106 members have renewed and 27 members have not. The Treasurer's Report was accepted.

## COMMITTEES :

**Field Day :** Tony K3TS is building a 2-element, full size 20 meter beam for Field Day.

**Clubhouse :** Al KB2AYU noted there is a big TO DO list in addition to the Grounding Project. The ceiling which shows a water leak remains to be fixed and we need to send pictures to the insurance company once repairs are made. Club member Bob KD2GFL came out with professional mowing equipment and finished mowing grass around the Clubhouse. We will need to ask the 4H if there is a way to locate the water and sewer lines so they will not be damaged when grounding rods are installed. This is a private system using well water, so Harrison Township cannot help out and the pipes are plastic so a metal detector cannot be used. Chuck WA2TML noted the faucet by the paved road could serve as a starting point for tracing the line.

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**Technical :** Jon WB2MNF reminded everyone that the next Tech Saturday on May 8 will serve as an Open House and asked everyone to spread the word. In view of the many chores that remain to be done at the Clubhouse (e.g. Shed Cleanout, Painting, Step Repair), he proposed that a Work Day be held 2 weeks after each Tech Saturday and suggested there be a signup sheet for these work sessions at Tech Saturdays and online. This idea was well received.

**Grounding Project :** Jon WB2MNF showed photos of copper grounding strips being installed in the HF room, removal/replacing of desk modesty panels with bracing, installation of AC line protectors and breaker box onto the copper strips, a box of ten grounding protectors for rotators donated by Ron NR2B etc. The next steps will be to mount coax and rotator protectors, shorten coax and rotator cables, reassemble the HF station and then develop and post written instructions for use of the station. In addition, Jon WB2MNF power washed the outside of the Clubhouse (it looks much cleaner now).

**Skunkworks Website :** Upgraded and looks much nicer.

**Hamfest :** Sheldon K2MEN expressed some concern over raising the tailgating price this year from \$8 to \$10. Most felt the price was appropriate and Tony K3TS suggested that those registering complaints could be pacified with a coupon, e.g. for a free coffee and donut. Also, there was some concern that publicizing radio swap meets via the GCARC email reflector could harm attendance at our hamfest, but it was decided to continue this in order to promote good will in the Radio Amateur community.

**DX and Contests :** Tony K3TS said the Florida QSO Party is this weekend.

#### **OLD BUSINESS :**

**Elecraft Linear Amplifier :** John W2HUV has placed the order. This will be shipped as two boxes of approximately 20 and 25 lbs. Ron NR2B agreed to receive this shipment at his home.

**Clubhouse Air Conditioner :** The unit previously offered by Dennis K2SE is too small, only 8,000 BTU, so the Club must order a larger unit (18,000 BTU). Al KB2AYU will check the dimensions of the opening in the Clubhouse then Tony K3TS will place an order at the Home Depot in Mantua, since he can pick it up from there with his truck.

**By-Law Amendment :** Ron NR2B reviewed his proposal to have projects funded and approved by the membership to be tracked more closely. Following some discussion and wordsmithing, Ron NR2B will prepare this amendment for presentation and vote at the next General Membership Meeting. Chuck WA2TML asked how many unfinished and/or abandoned "zombie" projects were still around. Nobody knows and Al KB2AYU said it would require going back thru meeting minutes. Tony K3TS said that all approved and ongoing projects should continue, including a new door and entry security system.

#### **NEW BUSINESS :**

**Clubhouse Generator :** Bill NJ2S pointed out that the generator was not intended for use during Field Day, but to provide emergency backup power to the Clubhouse. It needs a radiator and Bill NJ2S is looking for one at low cost. Club members have a sufficient number of small, quiet generators for use during Field Day so Tony K3TS tabled any further discussion of selling the generator.

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**Meeting adjourned @ 2042 Hours (motion by Jim KA2OSV, seconded by Ron NR2B).**

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