

Gloucester County Amateur Radio Club

Board of Directors ZOOM Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, May 19, 2021



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

Attendance :

- ◆ President Tony Starr, K3TS
- ◆ Treasurer Al Arrison, KB2AYU
- ◆ Recording Secretary Karl Frank, W2KBF
- ◆ 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 Frank Romero, N3PUU
- ◆ Member John O'Connell, K2QA
- ◆ Member Mike Pecorini, K2MRP
- ◆ Member Jon Pearce, WB2MNF
- ◆ Member Steve Farney, W2SEF
- ◆ Member Anthony Cerami, KD2RPI

Recording Secretary Karl W2KBF summarized the minutes from the April 21st BoD meeting and these were approved by vote of the attendees.

New Members : Jeff WB2ZBN received three membership applications :

- ◆ Arthur Olson Jr., N2AJO from Brick, NJ
- ◆ Gary Kinney, KC2ULS from Medford, NJ
- ◆ James McDonald Jr., WB2AOL from Columbus, OH

All three were accepted by vote.

Treasurer Report : Al KB2AYU reported YTD income of \$3820, mostly from dues, and expenses of \$1868 for a net gain of \$1952. The report was accepted.

Committee Reports :

Clubhouse : Al KB2AYU said the Tech Saturday/Open House was very successful. A new air conditioner has been installed which fit the existing hole in the Clubhouse. Club member Ernest Kraus KD2EAV met with Al KB2AYU at Lowes in order to use his Military Discount and obtained the unit plus extended warranty for approximately \$700. Al KB2AYU attempted to check out the 4H's bucket truck but found it would not start due to a dead battery. The next step will be to swap in a starter battery. A bucket truck or man lift will be needed to replace the rotator in the large tower. Bill NJ2S may be able to get one of his friends who is an electrical contractor to come over on a Sunday with his bucket truck.

Saturday, May 22, 2021 is Shed Cleanout Day. All members are invited to help out.

May 2021 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes - Continued on page 2

Field Day : Vinnie N4NYY was not present so Tony K3TS commented that plans are moving along well. Tony is almost finished constructing his 2 element 20 meter beam.

Tony clarified that the Club's generator is not intended for Field Day use. Instead we will use several small, quiet generators that belong to Club members.

A Field Day planning meeting will be scheduled sometime after the June General Membership meeting.

The BoD would like to have food available at Field Day although we don't want food preparation to take away manpower from on-air operating time. It was decided to announce the need for food volunteers at the next General Membership Meeting.

Technical Committee : Jon WB2MNF reviewed the recent Tech Saturday/Open House event, i.e. Fox Hunt Clinic by Jim Wright, N2GXJ, demonstration of HF station by John Hill, W2HUV and observation of satellite passes with Jon WB2MNF et al.

A rope has been attached to the boom of the HF antenna to prevent further uncontrolled rotation.

Due to the Lightning Protection Project, Tech Saturdays in June and July will not have programs but will still take place for Q & A and socialization.

Frank N3PUU said the Lightning Protection Project work in the HF room has gone as far as it can for now but more will need to be done after the linear amplifier arrives.

Other Projects : Karl W2KBF is working to establish a Winlink RMS (Radio Message Server) at his QTH. In a few weeks Gary Mirkin, WA3SVW plans to provide Winlink training during the Monday Night Digital Training Net and Karl W2KBF hopes to make the RMS accessible over the W2MMD 2 meter repeater in time for Gary's training.

Jon WB2MNF is working on getting solar power for the Skunkworks Project Cabinet.

The Club's new air conditioner can be controlled by WiFi so Jon WB2MNF is looking into controlling the air conditioner by remote over the internet.

Frank N3PUU has been working on a 3D-printed rotator for the SATNOGS station.

Hamfest : No report.

DX and Contests : Tony K3TS pointed out the upcoming WPX CW Contest on Memorial Day Weekend.

OLD BUSINESS :

Club Generator : Club member Anthony Cerami KD2RPI has been in touch with a person in Mullica Hill who collects old engines and will sell us a radiator for \$150 that will fit our generator. There is no tag on the engine, but this generator appears to be a 4 cylinder Kohler model from 1956. The BoD voted to purchase this radiator just to get the generator running and will ask the General Membership to approve funding for any other necessary replacement parts.

Anthony KD2RPI volunteered to remove and rebuild the carburetor and fuel pump. It may be possible to add a propane conversion kit. Both Tony K3TS and Frank N3PUU thought this would be a good idea. Frank N3PUU noted that, due to low rate of gas vaporization in cool weather, it may be necessary to have a propane tank of at least 200 pounds to run this generator.

NEW BUSINESS :

The June 2, 2021 General Meeting will be "Pizza Night" at the Pfeiffer Community Center in Williamstown. The indoor attendance limit has been removed but masks still will be needed. In the past, we usually ordered 8 to 10 pizzas, but since we are not certain of attendance this year, Tony K3TS will send out an email asking who plans to attend.

The Toilet Project : Jeff WB2ZBN, noting the Clubhouse toilet is too low and has cosmetic issues, volunteered to lead the Toilet Replacement Project. The BoD asked Jeff WB2ZBN to research the cost of brand name toilets, for which replacement parts are likely to remain available for some time.

Other Clubhouse Issues : Jeff WB2ZBN noted the 8-channel DVR at the Clubhouse has been beeping, which suggests the hard drive may have failed. John K2QA said he will investigate it.

Also, the outdoor floodlight near the VHF room flashes off and on at night, so it may need to be replaced.

Meeting adjourned @ 2011 Hours.

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