

Gloucester County Amateur Radio Club

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 20, 2021



President Tony Starr K3TS opened the meeting @ 1859 Hours.

Attendance :

- President Tony Starr K3TS
- Treasurer Alan Arrison KB2AYU
- Recording Secretary Karl Frank W2KBF
- Corresponding Secretary Ron Block NR2B
- Director Jeff Garth WB2ZBN
- Director Jim Clark KA2OSV
- Director Chuck Colabrese WA2TML
- Director Herb Dyer KT2Y
- Director Bill Price NJ2S
- Director Robert Durham W2RAD
- Member Frank Romeo N3PUU
- Member Jonathan Pearce WB2MNF
- Member John O'Connell K2QA

MINUTES : The minutes of the last BoD Meeting on September 22, 2021 were summarized by **Karl Frank W2KBF** and approved without changes.

MEMBERSHIP : **Jeff Garth WB2ZBN** received membership applications from **Carl Wittig (no call)** and **Jeff Thomson N2SQA**. Both applications were approved.

TREASURER : **Alan Arrison KB2AYU** reported the following YTD Budgeted Items :

- Income : \$11,924
- Expenses : \$6,893
- Net Gain : \$5,031

Total in all accounts includes \$5,128 in donations by cash and check for rebuilding. After deductions for "tips", the net GoFundMe donations are \$8,636 for a total of \$13,764 collected for rebuilding. So far, \$3,000 has been spent on the HF tower replacement and **President Tony Starr K3TS** donated rental of a trailer to move the replacement tower.

CLUBHOUSE : **Alan Arrison KB2AYU** noted that the HF station is back on the air using a triband beam and trailer-mounted tower that is on loan from him and a multiband dipole. SWR is high on 160 and 80 meters, but is OK on 40, 20, 15 and 10 meters. Remote control of the HF station has been restored. **Jonathan Pearce WB2MNF**, **Frank Romeo N3PUU** and **Alan** took down the old HF tower and the new tower is on the ground behind the Clubhouse The steel cables must be replaced. A 500-foot roll of steel cable may be enough and the cost estimate from Tashjian Towers Corporation is \$650, but we may look around for a better price e.g. at Fazzios. Also, we will need a steel mast. **Bill Price NJ2S** will check with **Rick Connor WC2K** to see if a cable crimping tool may be available.

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The hoist motor for the new tower may have suffered water damage. **Alan** and **Tony Starr K3TS** will ask **Anthony Cerami KD2RPI** if he would take a look at it. Also, **Alan** said that the heat tape on the water line to the Clubhouse must be checked for rodent damage before Winter and **Bill** noted that the level in the propane tank needs to be checked.

Tony asked if it was time to order the new **JK Mid-Tri 40** beam antenna. The funds were approved already by the membership, and the BoD decided to proceed with the order.

DX Committee : **Tony Starr K3TS** said the Clubhouse would be open Halloween weekend for the CQ WW DX SSB Contest. **Vinnie Sallustio N4NYY** will organize this effort and **Tony** will send out an announcement.

CLUB NETS : **Jim Clark KA2OSV** said that 4 to 5 people are checking in to the 10-meter Net. **Jeff Garth WB2ZBN** said that 8 to 10 were checking in to the 2 Meter nets.

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE : **Jonathan Pearce WB2MNF** noted that **Alan Arrison KB2AYU** has relocated the 2M APRS/70 CM WinLink antenna higher up on the damaged VHF tower and is now feeding it with hardline. This should improve the performance. **Frank Romeo N3PUU**, **John O'Connell K2QA**, and **Jonathan** got WinLink working on 40 meters from the Clubhouse using a FLEX 3000. **Jonathan** hopes to set this up on a more permanent basis.

OLD BUSINESS : The next VE session will be run by **Gary Reed N2QEE** at the Clubhouse on November 11. Advance registration with **Gary** is necessary. **Jeff Garth WB2ZBN** will open the Clubhouse for this event.

There was some discussion as to what was covered by the Club's insurance policy. **Alan Arrison KB2AYU** clarified that only the structure and its contents are covered. Anything outside, including towers and antennas, are not covered. The possibility of obtaining insurance from ARRL that would cover towers and antennas was discussed and **Chuck Colabrese WA2TML** volunteered to investigate.

NEW BUSINESS : **Tony Starr K3TS** relayed a suggestion that he had received from **Charlie Wahl KC2STO** about inviting the Boy Scouts to use the W2MMD facilities during Jamboree On The Air (JOTA). The BoD agreed to this and to inviting the Scouts to Field Day to participate in the GOTA station. **Bill Price NJ2S** will reach out to Troop 9 in West Deptford.

Jeff Garth WB2ZBN noted that **Chris Prioli AD2CS** organized and submitted the paperwork necessary for GCARC to be recognized as a Special Service Club. This recognition is for clubs that are active in 1) New Ham Development, 2) Public Relations, 3) Emergency Communications, 4) Technical Advancement, 5) Operating Activity and 6) Miscellaneous Activities.

Karl Frank W2KBF reviewed the status of EMCOMM within Gloucester County and asked the BoD to consider the possibility of reconstituting the Gloucester County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (GC-ARES) as part of a Public Service Committee within GCARC as had been suggested by **SNJ Section Manager Tom Preiser N2XW**. This would require GC-ARES registrants to be GCARC members and would extend GCARC liability insurance to cover GC-ARES exercises. No decision was taken.

MISCELLANEOUS DISCUSSIONS : **Jim Clark KA2OSV** asked if the Club was going to have a Christmas Party this year. It was decided that **Jim** would gauge the level of interest at the next General Membership Meeting and that **Bill Price NJ2S** would contact **Phyllis Martin W2PDB** about this if the response is positive.

The meeting was adjourned @ 2038 Hours.

Respectfully Submitted
Karl Frank W2KBF
GCARC Recording Secretary