

Gloucester County Amateur Radio Club

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, November 17, 2021



President Tony Starr K3TS opened the meeting @ 1900 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
- Member Frank Romeo N3PUU
- Member Jonathan Pearce WB2MNF
- Member John O'Connell K2QA
- Member Chris Prioli AD2CS
- Member Carl Wittig KD2YIF

MINUTES : The minutes of the October BoD Meeting were summarized by **Karl Frank W2KBF** and approved without modification.

TREASURER : Alan Arrison KB2AYU reported YTD Budgeted Items.

- Income : \$12,032
- Expenses : \$7,132
- Net gain : \$4,899

Total in all accounts includes donations.

The propane tank has been refilled (62 gallons at \$6.50/gallon). The electric bill so far this year has been about \$1,700 and may reach more than \$2,000 by the end of this year. An annual audit of the books and an equipment inventory is due. Alan will contact **Jim Wright N2GXJ** about this. Also, a budget committee will need to be formed in early 2022.

MEMBERSHIP : Jeff Garth WB2ZBN received membership applications from **Jerome Milden K2000** (Swedesboro), **Richard Subers W2RHS** (Clayton) and **David Danichkin KD2UXC** (Vineland). All three applications were approved. Jeff noted the Club now has 168 members.

CLUBHOUSE : Alan Arrison checked the heating tape on the water pipes (all OK) and has left the heater in the bathroom set on low for the Winter. He spent an hour using the push mower in order to empty it of gasoline. The replacement tower will need some work. Minor welding may be required to reinforce grooves worn into the tower and a pulley may need replacement. A 250-foot roll of lifting cable has been purchased for \$70 and **Frank N3PUU** and Alan have located sources that have "good prices" for a crimping tool, cable cutter, bolts etc. A M2 rotator is on order. It has not been easy to find a 2" O.D. galvanized mast.

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Tony Starr K3TS will put out a notice on the FRC reflector, looking for a 10 to 20 foot mast.

DX / CONTESTS : **Tony Starr K3TS** noted that band conditions were very good during recent contest weekends, but have since declined. The ARRL Phone Sweepstakes is coming up this weekend and the CQ WW CW Contest is Thanksgiving weekend.

CLUB NETS : **Jim Clark KA2OSV** has not been able to participate in the 10 Meter Net for the past few weeks but rumor has it that the net is going well. **Jeff Garth WB2ZBN** said the 2 Meter Nets are receiving 8 to 10 participants each time.

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE : **Jonathan Pearce WB2MNF** said the 70 cm WinLink station is working well and he is working with **Frank N3PUU** to establish a 40 meter link that will transfer data via HF to the outside world if/when the Internet connection in our area is down. This may prove useful not just for EM-COMM but also for the General Membership to send Health and Welfare email.

OLD BUSINESS : **Chuck Colabrese WA2TML** looked into obtaining insurance from the ARRL that would cover our towers and antennas. The rate is \$1.40 per \$100 in coverage, up to \$15,000 per item, with a \$50 deductible. The next step would require us to assemble a list of items to be insured and compare this to a commercial quote. **Tony Starr K3TS** suggested that we could keep our current insurance on the Club-house and contents but use ARRL insurance to cover antennas and towers.

NEW BUSINESS : **Jeff Garth WB2ZBN** noted that the December 15th date for the proposed Club holiday party would conflict with the December 15th BoD Meeting. We still do not know if the holiday party is a GO, so a decision on rescheduling the next BoD Meeting will be deferred until the next General Membership Meeting.

LICENSE PREPARATION CLASSES : **Chris Prioli AD2CS** presented a written proposal to run classes at the Clubhouse for the Technician, General and Amateur Extra Class licenses, beginning in January 2022. After much discussion, the BoD authorized a proposal to spend \$300 so that Chris could purchase 30 course books at \$10 each (10 Tech, 10 General, 10 Extra). The Club will charge \$15/book, for a small profit. This proposal will be presented for approval at the next General Membership Meeting.

MISCELLANEOUS : **Jeff Garth WB2ZBN** received the rental agreement for the Pfeiffer Community Center in 2022 and needs a check for \$240. There was one new Tech licensee and one upgrade to General at the November 11th VE session. **Alan Arrison KB2AYU** prefers that membership renewal be put off until January, in order to simplify bookkeeping. **Jonathan Pearce WB2MNF** reported that the last Tech Saturday was "terrific", with 13 participants and multiple good conversations (not just old war stories and morbidity reports). Jonathan then led a discussion regarding the boundaries of the grounds that we lease from the 4H and how best to get along with the annual Wine Festival (which will not be repeated here). **Ron Block NR2B** noted that we are now required to notify the 4H in advance when we schedule any major activities, such as Field Day. After objections to this requirement were raised, Ron agreed to draft a letter of response to the 4H and submit it to the Board for comments and approval before it is sent.

The meeting was adjourned @ 2053 Hours.

**Respectfully Submitted,
Karl Frank W2KBF, GCARC Recording Secretary**