

Gloucester County Amateur Radio Club

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 20, 2023



Meeting opened @ 1900 Hours by President Jonathan Pearce WB2MNF.

ATTENDANCE :

- President Jonathan Pearce WB2MNF
- Vice President Ron Block NR2B
- Treasurer John O'Connell K2QA
- Recording Secretary Karl Frank W2KBF
- Corresponding Secretary Frank Romeo N3PUU
- Director Alan Arrison KB2AYU
- Director Bill Price NJ2S
- Director Jeff Garth WB2ZBN
- Director Jim Clark KA2OSV
- Director Chris Prioli AD2CS
- Director Jim Wright N2GXJ
- Member John Hill W2HUV
- Member Sheldon Parker K2MEN

NEW MEMBER APPLICATIONS : The following nine applications were approved (six of these were from the hamfest) :

- Lance Appel KE2UC, Amateur Extra from Vineland, NJ
- James Foster W3JNF, General Class from Springfield, PA
- Glen Guenther KE2BUO, Technician Class from Sewell, NJ
- Melissa Guenther KE2BWZ, Technician Class from Sewell, NJ
- Jack Gordon WA2RHJ, Amateur Extra from Tabernacle, NJ
- Derrick Hollis KC3UEE, Technician Class from Wilmington, DE
- Stephen McGarry WS2C, Amateur Extra from Sewell, NJ
- James Ricketts KC3TYH, General Class from Media, PA
- William Wood KD2OSJ, General Class from Sewell, NJ

TREASURER : John O'Connell K2QA reported the following :

Net income of \$1,707.20 from the Hamfest was below the budgeted expectation of \$3,600, probably due to the bad weather. Income from donations and dues is above budgetary expectations but by year-end other expenses, e.g. insurance, name badge blanks, and electricity, are now projected to require approximately \$700 beyond what was budgeted. This will require approval by the General Membership. The Treasurer's report was accepted.

THE TOWER PROJECT : Frank Romeo N3PUU provided an update of costs for the Tower Project. The initial estimate was \$8,700 but we should allow another \$1,000 or so for possible unexpected expenses. The following points were considered and adopted :

- a. A total of \$3,144 is already designated for the towers and we should ask the membership to approve an increase to \$5,000 for this purpose from Club funds.
- b. This would avoid spending down the treasury to below \$14,000, which is the annual cost of running the Club.
- c. This would leave a shortfall of \$4,000 to \$5,000 which would require fundraising or donations.

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- d. Frank was authorized to proceed with plans that would limit spending at this time to \$3,144, pending additional funding.

CLUBHOUSE : Frank Romeo N3PUU will solicit help from Club members to finish the ground work for the VHF room. This includes digging trenches and driving ground rods. **Chris Prioli AD2CS** noted that when an alarm went off at the Clubhouse on Sunday morning (probably due to an unlocked door blowing open) it took several calls from the alarm company before someone from the Club who was able to respond could be reached, and suggested a change in the notification process.

FOX HUNT : Jim Wright N2GXJ noted that several new members participated in the recent Fox Hunt. **Marc Federici WM2Y** is preparing an article with pictures for CrossTalk.

CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE : The BoD finalized review of the revised GCARC Constitution. **Ron Block NR2B** will incorporate feedback and circulate the final draft to the membership prior to the October General Membership Meeting.

MISCELLANEOUS :

- **Jonathan Pearce WB2MNF** took the opportunity to discuss a few issues, including liability and insurance, with **ARRL Atlantic Division Director Robert Famiglio N3RF** (who is an attorney) when the Director toured the W2MMD Clubhouse during the hamfest. We were advised that Club officers and directors are not likely to be held liable except in the case extreme negligence. Nevertheless, we should look into having general liability coverage thru our homeowners' insurance. Also, to protect directors of the GCAR Foundation, this will be added to the GCARC policy at a cost of \$150, which will be paid out of Foundation funds.
- Jon noted that newly licensed hams may have questions that are not addressed while studying for their licenses but that the TechNet ZOOM Forum could be used to address these questions.
- The Nominating Committee has completed its work and will present a slate of proposed candidates for office at the October General Membership Meeting.
- **Frank Romeo N3PUU** lead a discussion of ways to raise funds to complete the Tower Project. Among the suggestions were raising the membership dues, an equipment raffle, selling tickets to a Club Holiday Party and a Memorial Display with call letters of donors. The BoD favors having an indoor plaque that acknowledges contributions of \$100 or more. Frank will poll the membership to gauge level of interest in a Holiday Party.
- **John Hill W2HUV** would like to upgrade the remote interface for the FLEX radio. This will require future discussion.

The BoD meeting was closed @ 2058 Hours.

Karl Frank W2KBF, GCARC Recording Secretary