

Tri-City Amateur Radio Club
PO Box 552, Groton, CT 06340

May 25, 2020

Minutes of the May 12, 2020 regular meeting of the Tri-City Amateur Radio Club.

The May meeting of the Tri-City Amateur Radio Club was conducted as a directed net on the 147.06 Salem repeater, due corona-19 virus pandemic related public health restrictions on gatherings of greater than 5 people.

Club president Bob Nazro, W1RPQ, opened the net with 13 members and guests checking in, and called the regular business meeting to order at 1905.

The secretary's minutes of the April meeting were distributed to club officers via e-mail and posted to the club website for membership review. A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the April minutes as posted. (KOJEB/K1JMN).

The club treasurer was not present but reported informally that no transactions had taken place since the April meeting and the club account balances have not changed. She noted that she would be writing a check to the ARRL/VEC to be forwarded to the ARRL as a pass through in lieu of cash collected at the recent VE exam session. The treasurer also provided an summary of annual of receipts and disbursements to support the annual audit.

Committee Reports:

Antenna Committee: W1RPQ reported that all antenna related materials ordered from MFJ and DX Engineering have been received. Wire antennas fabrication to support Field Day operations is on hold.

Bylaws revision committee: (WA2RYV) Markups showing proposed changes are shown on the club website. A suggestion was made to consider changing the club's schedule for nomination/election/installation schedule in the By-Law to

reduce the interaction between these activities and scheduled spring/summer activities. The committee will consider this and other suggestions. It was mentioned that if the club wants to IRS 501.c(3) tax exempt status, there are specific clauses that need to be included in the By-Laws. No further action has been taken.

Communications committee: (K1JMN) Press releases will be forwarded to area news papers during the week of May 11.

Field Day committee: (W1RPQ) Corona-19 pandemic and related restrictions on group gatherings has thrown a wrench in the gears of Field Day planning for 2020. The ARRL is still planning on conducting the nationwide event, but its most recent guidance suggests that club planning should shift to Class D and E events...single operator operations from home or field locations. Whether such individual operations could be consolidated into a club submission is unclear. Needless to say, Field Day planning has been disrupted until further guidance is received from the ARRL. Whether the planned Montville site will be available is uncertain, given the current state imposed restrictions on gatherings. Our default plan will be to transition to individual operations. The club has software that members can use to record Field Day contacts. (KOJEB)

Program Committee: (KOJEB) The corona-19 pandemic and related meeting restrictions have interrupted our pre-meeting programs. The club has started a "Wellness Net" on the 147.06 Salem repeater at 1300 daily as a vehicle to keep members in touch with each other during this medical crisis. Future program topics are on hold.

Tips Net: KC1TWR reported that the TIPS Net has been having an average of 8 to 9 checkins weekly, on the 147.06 repeater. All sessions are being recorded and are available from KA6PDG on his internet site, AM1700.org. The net's current format of discussing a variety of topics continues to be a success. Additional Net Control Stations are needed.

Old business:

PR Brochure: A proposal by SCRAMS to put together a PR brochure that summarizes amateur radio activity in Eastern Connecticut was presented several months ago. The concept is to put together a tri-fold flyer that gives each area club space to present info on their repeaters, programs and meetings. Expenses would be shared by the clubs. The Communications Committee will work on this. March update: The target audience and purpose needs to be clarified and agreed to by the clubs. May update: On hold,

A VE session was held at the Red Cross office on on May 9 for 10 examinees. W1RPQ, W1MCT, K1DCT, and W1FJW served as VEs. One Extra, 4 Technicians, 4 Generals and one failure resulted. Congratulations to all who successfully passed or upgraded their licenses. An exam session is planned for May 30, 2 pm, at The Red Cross office. Pre-registration with WA2RYV (WA2RYV@arrl.net) is required.

Ham Radio Boot Camp planning is on hold.

New Business:

Club public liability insurance is due for renewal. A motion was made, seconded and approved to expend the \$200 to renew the insurance policy.(K1JMN/K0JEB)

Annual elections of club officers: The positions of President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer will need to be filled for next year.

KC1TWR nominated K1JMN to the position of Treasurer,

K1EV nominated KC1TWR for the position of Secretary,

KC1TWR nominated K1EV for the position of Vice President, and

K1JMN nominated W1RPQ for the position of President and all agreed to serve and no further nominations were made. Consequently, the Secretary was directed to cast one vote for this slate officers. The new officers will assume their officers at the June meeting.

Tri City Auction: WA2RYV has spoken this the Gales Ferry Fire Co hall scheduler and the hall will be available for our traditional date, October 31, 2020. WA2RYV will submit a reservation for that date.

For the Good of the Order:

W1RPQ offered thanks to outgoing treasurer N1EAT and secretary WA2RYV for their service to the club.

Margareta Linea Burke, wife of Dick Burke, KA1ZQR, recently passed away. Keep Dick in your thoughts. K1EV has several radios repaired for Dick to help him get back on the air.

Arthur Perry, KQ1O, of Waterford passed away at the age of 101 on May 11 from Covid-19 virus. Art was a very active member of TCARC during the 1970s, 80s and 90s.

Upcoming Events:

TCARC auction October 31, Gales Ferry Fire Station, Rt 12 Gales Ferry

KC1TWR reported that road races and associated ARES support activities have been either postponed or canceled for the summer of 2020.

The Saturday breakfast net meets at 8AM weekly on the 147.06 repeater.

ARES and the Red Cross will be conducting a nationwide exercise on Saturday May 30. The morning session will be local operations via an ARES net on 147.06 repeater. The afternoon session will focus on Winlink operations. All are encouraged to participate. Contact KC1TWR or WA2RYV for information.

VE exam at Red Cross, May 30 at 2pm. Pre-registration is required. Contact Tom, WA2RYV at WA2RYV@arrl.net.

The meeting was adjourned at 1937.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas E. Scott, WA2RYV, Secretary