

Tri-City Amateur Radio Club

PO Box 552, Groton, CT 06340

September 8, 2020

Minutes of the September 8, 2020 regular meeting of the Tri-City Amateur Radio Club.

The September meeting of the Tri- City Amateur Radio Club was conducted using the video conferencing application Zoom due to the Covid-19 virus pandemic related public health restrictions on gatherings of greater than 25 people.

Club president Bob Nazro, W1RPQ called the meeting to order at 19:02 hours. The following members were present: Bob Nazro W1RPQ (President), Bill Birtcher K1EV (VP), Jerry Morales K1JMN (Treasurer), Tim Rodgers KC1TWR (Secretary); and Tom Scott WA2RYV, Josh Burke KOJEB, Rob Sawyer KB1RS

Secretaries Report: Tom WA2RYV made a motion to accept the secretary's minutes of the August meeting, seconded by Bill K1EV. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Starting balance \$6,382.83. Dues and donations \$40.00. Expenses \$145.70. Ending balance \$6,277.13. Josh KOJEB moved to accept, seconded by Bill K1EV. Motion carried. Jerry K1JMN also had the bank stop sending the paper statements to save the club \$2.00 per month.

Committee Reports:

Antenna Committee: All the equipment is on hand. We just need the opportunity to get together and finish the build out of the towers and guidelines.

Bylaws revision committee: Tom, Tina, Bill. Bylaw changes ready for action under old business.

Field Day committee: Need volunteers for next year's Field Day. Rob KB1RS, Jerry K1JMN, and Tim KC1TWR have volunteered.

Program Committee: The club is looking at how we can do some training on ZOOM. Josh KOJEB is developing a presentation on setting up older versions of Windows in a virtual environment to run older ham radio software that does not run on the current version of Windows.

Tips Net: We continue to have good discussions and have many experienced operators attending.

Breakfast Net: Breakfast Net has now been started and meeting Monday through Friday at 8 AM local time on the Salem W1DX 147.06 repeater. Attendance has been a bit spotty, but some good conversations have occurred. The net starts with a net control but follows a round table process passing from one ham to another.

ARES Report: The next event is the Niantic Bay Boardwalk 5k and is still on for Sunday Oct 25th. No further word currently about the CT ARES Fall SET or the Red Cross / ARES Nationwide SET for November 14th.

Old business:

Bylaw Changes: The changes were sent out to club members before the August meeting. Josh KOJEB made a motion to accept the changes to the Bylaws as distributed with the August Agenda and discussed at the August meeting, seconded by Jerry K1JMN. Motion carried. The approved bylaws will be posted to the club's website.

Setting up online payment system for club dues and donations: Rob KB1RS made a motion to setup up an option for online payment for accepting dues and donations on the club webpage. Bill K1EV seconded. Once added to the club's web page a posting will be added, and email will be sent out notifying all club members and past members about the PayPal link.

Amateur Radio Pamphlet Design: Bob K1RPQ recommended removing for now. Tom WA2RYV made a motion to table the Pamphlet work for now, seconded by Josh KOJEB. Motion carried.

Tri-City VE Test Sessions: Tim Kc1TWR reported that Joe Jackson K1BHM had obtained permission from the East Great Pain Fire Depart allowing the Tri-City ARC to use their Pavilion and Meeting Room (if the weather is bad) for VE sessions , as long as it is not in use for another function. Darryl DelGrosso WA1DD and Dave Thackston K1DCT will be contacted as potential VE's for this test session. Tom WA2RYV, Bob W1RPQ, and Rob KB1RS are also potential VE's for the test. Tentative date is Oct 3rd with the 17th as the secondary date. Two sessions to be from 9 to noon with a maximum of ten candidates per session. Secondary site to be checked, if needed, is Salem Community Park.

New Business:

Zoom: Rob KB1RS made a motion the club assume the cost of the monthly Zoom subscription until we are able to resume in person meetings, seconded by Bill K1EV. Motion carried. Cost is about \$15 per month.

Pipe Mast Donation: Tom WA2RYV has access to a 48' aluminum military 12 section pipe mast in a vinyl duffel bag as a club donation. Bob W1RPQ said he could store it with the club's two towers in his barn.

Jamboree on the Air Oct 16, 17, 18: Rob KB1RS reported Rhode Island Scouts are looking for amateur radio volunteers for the Jamboree On The Air (JOTA). Contact Rob KB1RS for further details.

For the Good of the Order:

We were saddened by Tina Main N1EAT leaving the hobby, but we sincerely appreciated everything she contributed to the club. We also thank her for her kind words in her exit email regarding the club and its members.

Rob KB1RS remarked that old ham gear is selling like crazy as so many hams are at home due to Covid-19 and looking for projects to work on. He has been helping the family of an SK sell some radio gear.

Upcoming Events:

TCARC auction October 31 has been cancelled.

Thursday Breakfast, 07:00 Olde Tymes Restaurant, Norwich on hold.

Saturday Breakfast, 08:00 Uncasville Diner, Montville is still on hold.

NEARFest 2020 has been cancelled.

The meeting was adjourned at 20:16.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Rodgers, KC1TWR, Secretary