

Tri-City Amateur Radio Club

PO Box 552, Groton, CT 06340

Minutes of the January 12, 2021 regular meeting of the Tri-City Amateur Radio Club.

The January 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 and members reluctance to meet face to face currently.

Club president Bob Nazro, W1RPQ called the meeting to order at 19:01 hours. The following members were present: Bob Nazro W1RPQ (President), Bill Birtcher K1EV (VP), Jerry Morales K1JMN, Tim Rodgers KC1TWR (Secretary); Rob Sawyer KB1RS (Treasurer), Josh Burke KOJEB, and Tom WA2RYV. Also present was visitor Carl Lee.

Secretaries Report: Bill K1EV made a motion to accept the secretary's minutes of the December meeting, seconded by Rob KB1RS. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Starting balance \$6,310.38. Monies received \$37.64. Monies expended \$31.90. Ending balance \$6,316.12. Bill K1EV moved to accept, seconded by Jerry K1JMN. Motion carried. Rob KB2RS has access to all accounts and the Post Office Box key now as the new Treasurer. Currently Rob KB2RS, Tim KC1TWR, and Bill K1EV are on the Post Office list. Ron consolidated the membership list and has sent email to those who have not paid their current dues. 38 paid members for the current year, including those that passed an exam and received a free year's membership. Rob is waiting on response from 12 people whose dues are not in good standing. Concerning membership in the clubs Groups.io account, the current number is 30. Invites sent to those current members not in groups.io. There are four on groups.io that are not currently paying members and have been sent an email. Rob will remove from roster and groups. Io those not paid up by the end of January.

Committee Reports:

Antenna Committee: All the equipment is on hand. Waiting for the Covid-19 restrictions to relax to get together and finish the build out of the towers and guidelines.

Field Day committee: Jerry K1JMN and Tim KC1TWR are on the committee. Bob W1RPQ waiting on call back if the field can be used. Rob KB2RS will also be checking out the Zagray Farm Museum site which RASON is using for Winter Field Day.

Program Committee: Bob W1RPQ will give an online virtual meeting presentation on FT-8 Monday January 18th. Bob taking over as chairman.

Audit Committee: Report was given during the treasurer's report. Committee standing down until next year.

Tips Net, Breakfast Net, and Wellness Net: We continue to have good discussions and have many experienced operators attending on the Tips Net. Bob W1RPQ noted there had been a very good presentation by Steve Veci NK1V about Parks On The Air (POTSA) on one of the Tips Nets. The Breakfast Net and Wellness Net have had fluctuations in attendance but are still working well.

ARES Report: Tim KC1TWR is still working to find out if the O’Niantic and O’Putnam will be held in March. Also, Sunday night January 17th 8 PM the CT ARES Check In will be virtual on Microsoft Teams. Mike W8ZY will send the link out on the CTARES Groups.io Notification group.

Old business:

Tri-City VE Test Sessions: Tri-City ARC Test Session on Saturday February 13th at the East Great {Plain Fire Station in Norwich. Kevin Harkins KA6PDG is helping to send out notifications of the event to various nets and radio stations. The event is also posted on the ARRL web page.

Ham Boot Camp: On hold.

New Business:

1: Bob W1RPQ attended an ARRL Executive meeting on Saturday January 9th. He reported that the New Hampshire club that had done the ARES training will be doing a one- or two-day Ham Boot camp next April. As Bob gets more information, he will pass it on to the club. Also, there is a club in Massachusetts that would like to get the New England Amateur Radio clubs together for a booth at The Big-E in 2022.

2: Web account renewal required. Tim KC1TWR reports that it is time for the club’s webhosting and domain name annual renewal. \$127.87 due on January 24th. Tim recommends that he pay this and be reimbursed by the club. Josh K0JEB asked what the additional cost for SSL which would be, and it was determined to be \$79.99. Discussion was also had about moving to a different hosting service next year that includes SSL in the base cost. Ron KB1RS made a motion to renew our current website hosting, seconded by Josh K0JEB. Motion passed.

3: Band Pass Filter Project. Bill K1EV noted that the club already has a 20 M BPF from Harry Solt W1HAF. Jerry K1JMN working on 40 M Band Pass Filter. Bill K1EV will see if he has the capacitors for needed.

4: Winter Field Day. RASON club call N1NW is holding their Winter Field Day at the Zagray Farm Museum and working it as an outdoor station with no commercial power. According to Rob KB1RS all are welcome to come be a relief operator. If you want to join them with your radio you need to adhere to the rules they are following for the outdoor category or they will lose the special points. Everyone may also work Winter Field Day from home.

For the Good of the Order:

1: Ed, K1EE, has passed away due to complications related to the COVID 19 virus. Tri-City will send a card of condolences to the family. If anyone wishes to express their condolences, they may write to his widow at:

Barbara Eckelmeyer
Stonebridge
900 Hollinshead Rd. Apt H303
Skill man, NJ. 08558

2: FCC changes to License process and fees. Because of the FCC moving to a paperless environment all will need to have a valid email address on file with the FCC.

3: Bill KE1V received an email from Bill Page W1LCJ that his neighbor has a bird 43-watt meter with 2 elements for under \$200. Contact Bill W1LCJ for details.

Upcoming Events:

FT8 Presentation 18-January on Zoom. Details on club website.

VE Session 13 FEB 2021 at East Great Plain Fire Station, Norwich, CT 09:30 – 11:00

The meeting was adjourned at 19:45. (Josh KOJEB / Rob KB1RS)

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Rodgers, KC1TWR, Secretary