

Tri-City Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 73 Gales Ferry, CT 06335-0073

Minutes of the July 13, 2021, regular meeting of the Tri-City Amateur Radio Club.

The meeting of the Tri- City Amateur Radio Club was conducted at the Red Cross office at 1031 Route 32 Uncasville. There was also a Zoom meeting due to the Covid-19 virus pandemic related public health restrictions and some members reluctance to meet face to face currently.

Club vice-president Bill Birtcher K1EV called the meeting to order at 19:00 hours and called for a round of introductions. The following members were present: Bill Birtcher K1EV (VP), Tim Rodgers KC1TWR (Secretary), Rob Sawyer KB1RS (Treasurer), Jerry Tardif NT1O, Josh Burke KOJEB, Tom Scott WA2RYV, Jim Villano KC1PIV, Pete Hoover K1PLH, John Drew WF1C, and Chuck Wehner W1FJW. On Zoom was Harry Solt III N1FAM and Bob Nazro W1RPQ.

Secretaries Report: Rob KB1RS made a motion to accept the secretary's minutes of the June meeting as presented, seconded by Josh KOJEB. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Starting balance \$ 5,272.68. Monies received \$98.82. Monies expended \$357.31. Ending balance \$ 5014.19. The CT annual business filing was completed on July 12th, pending acceptance on the state website. Rob KB1RS reported that currently the club has 54 paid memberships. There are also four new applications to be voted on. They are W1MKC Dan Irwin, KF6UX Richard Kopplin, W2WBN Bruce Newman, and KA1BSS Roddy McComber. Jerry NT1O made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report and the four applications, seconded by Dennis KC1NYB. Motion Carried. This brings the membership up to 58.

Committee Reports:

Antenna Committee: Committee has completed all work regarding preparing for Field Day. Committee is being dissolved until needed again.

Field Day committee: (Bob W1RPQ and Tim KC1TWR) Put to rest for a few months before starting to prepare for the next Field Day.

Program Committee: Looking for volunteers to give presentations.

Project Committee: Tim KC1TWR will contact Jerry K1JMN to obtain the 40m pass band filter being built by Jerry for the club. There were some coils that needed to be rewound after testing by Bill K1EV.

Nets:

- **Tips Net (Wed/7PM/W1DX):** Three sections. The question and answer/discussion; announcements; and the buy, sell, looking for section. Still a good core of attendees.

- **Breakfast Roundtable (M-F/8AM/W1DX):** Disbanded as attendance dropped due to Covid-19 restrictions easing up.
- **Wellness Net (M-Sat/1PM/W1DX):** Ended for now and put on the shelf until needed again.

ARES Report: Looking for volunteers for the August 8th Niantic Bay Triathlon event. The Mystic 10K is scheduled for November 14th. Normally there is also a half marathon, but that part is being skipped for this year as it is late in the season.

Old business:

1: Club purchases: LDG Z-100A Tuner was purchased for the Icom 7100. The case for the radio, power supply and tuner still need to be purchased.

2: Field Day: Bill K1EV noted there was some cross band interference as most antennas were close to each other. Recommendation putting radios in center and antennas on a circle around the radios. Rob KB1RS recommended starting set up on Friday as it felt like we were rushed setting up the antennas. This would allow enough time for testing setups and troubleshooting. Bob W1RPQ thanked everyone for coming out, working with each other, and having fun with the event. He also noted the impact Covid-19 had on planning meetings. He also noted that there was little public attendance probably due to Covid-19 restrictions still in place. Josh KOJEB recommended for next year setting up a rotating sleep schedule for overnight.

3: Club Inventory: Tim KC1TWR is working on gathering all the different equipment tracking documents and put them into one spreadsheet. Jim KC1PIV volunteered to help with this task.

4: Tri-City ARC Test Sessions: Bob W1RPQ suggested one session a month. Tim KC1TWR will send out a questionnaire to the local VEs asking if they could support a test session per month.

New Business:

1: Rob KB1RS proposed a change to the Membership application/renewal form to remove reference mailing out the newsletter as the club would be sending by email, not postal mail. He also recommended adding a question if the candidate is a VE to the membership application.

2: Harry N1FAM reported that at the Museum Ships Weekend Event there were 10 operators and 1,100 QSOs. There were 81 of the normal 100 ships available during the event. There were 125 requests for QSL cards. The MCU was used, but discussion will be had on better use of it next year to engage the public. Plans are to find out what kind of radio gear the Nautilus used in its career and see if we can collect and use similar radios in the parking lot. N1S has been reserved for next year. For next year start set up on Thursday and break down on Monday.

3: Elections: Slate of proposed officers is needed for the August meeting, for the election in September. Anyone interested in any of the positions should contact a current officer. Bill K1EV said as a minimum the Vice President position would be open.

4: Activities: Rob KB1RS recommended combining a VE Test Session with POTA which exposes the new Hams to hands on activity. Bob W1RPQ commented that one station could be shared by several club members, which allows for good conversation by those not actively on the radio.

For the Good of the Order:

1:

Upcoming Events:

- 1:** Niantic Bay Triathlon August 8, 2021.
- 2:** RASON Picnic August 19 at the East Great Plain Fire House.
- 3:** Boxboro is Sept 10 and 12, 2021
- 4:** NEAR-Fest is on October 15 and 16, 2021.
- 5:** RASON Auction Saturday October 30, 2021.

The meeting was adjourned at 20:22. (Dennis KC1NYB/Rob KB1RS). Next meeting will be on August 10, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Rodgers, KC1TWR, Secretary