



The Villages Amateur Radio Club Minutes for March 2021

These minutes are the board-approved record of The Villages Amateur Radio Club's expenditures of club funds, property transactions, contractual agreements and proceedings involving membership votes since the last General Membership meeting. The current club property inventory and financial report can be found on the club's website.

March 04, 2021 Board Meeting

Due to the continued restrictions imposed because of the Corona Virus Pandemic our board continues to meet via Zoom to conduct club business.

Officers present were: President Mike Regan, KM4ZTE, Vice-President Paul Nittel, KM4PIH, Secretary Bob Schwer, K3ZGA, Treasurer Bruce Cusanelli, WA1UTQ and Board Member-At-Large, John Ellis, NP2B.

Guests in attendance included: Webmaster and Lead VE, Rich Erlichman, ND4G, Past Vice President, Mark Graybill, W8BIT.

Introductory Remarks were made by the new President, Mike Regan and new Vice President, Paul Nittel.

Recent Issues Resolved:

1. The club has received two unsolicited requests from what appears to be a local Political group for someone from our club to come and present a program on Amateur Radio to their "Freedom Loving Citizens". It was unanimously agreed that we should ignore the requests and not get involved with any potential political agenda.
2. The Sumter County Sheriff is again soliciting donations for his Annual Charity Golf
3. Tournament. John Ellis proposed that we donate \$400 to this event, which we have supported in the past. Last year's event was cancelled due to Covid-19 issues.
4. A discussion was held regarding what club equipment should be posted on our public club website. It was agreed that posting a detailed list of equipment owned by the club to support club activities should not be posted on the website. An annual

inventory should be completed so that the board has access to this information and the club's Treasurer keeps a copy should it be needed.

5. The importance of our Club Treasurer's job and the fine way that it is carried out by Bruce Cusanelli, WA1UTQ was recognized. A discussion about the importance of having an adequate treasury balance to cover yearly expected and unexpected expenses. Bruce was recognized for managing this aspect of our club properly.

A review of the duties of Board Members and Officers was had to assure that everyone had a correct understanding of their responsibilities.

A review of the position and duties of current Chairpersons and Coordinators was had and appreciation was expressed for those individuals and the work they do to support the Club.

Finances: Bruce reported that the ending balance month-to-date for March is \$6,769.32.

Covid-19 and the Future of In-Person Meetings:

A discussion held regarding the pluses and minuses of going back to in-person meetings. While everyone agreed that this is very much looked forward to, our conclusion was to hold off until at least Fall to make any concrete decisions about going back to public gatherings. It is getting very controversial as the vaccines are rolled out to the public and we will probably discuss periodically, but our current decision remains to wait until Fall to gauge the status of safety for our members.

Future Programs:

March: Mike Pilgrim, K5MP, a recognized Authority on the Cootie / Sideswiper.

April: "The Crack TVARC Repeater Team" – Bruce, Gary and Len

May: Bob Heil

June: Bob Schwer, K3ZGA presenting a program on The Straight Key Century Club.

Goals and Activities for 2021:

The idea of a "Villages-On-The-Air", VOTA or QSO Party to be publicized via QST was discussed along with the idea of a Villages oriented, "Worked All Villages" event / competition. Mark Graybill, W8BIT offered to draft a proposal to outline the details for the board's consideration and approval.

A discussion was held on increasing the club's social interaction by launching a TVARC Facebook Group. Mark Graybill, W8BIT, has offered to champion this effort. Some members are not happy with the open politics of Facebook and question their desire to support this idea. It was decided to table this discussion for another time.

It was agreed that when we go back to in-person meetings that we should broadcast our meetings via Zoom for those members who are snowbirds who have gone back up North or cannot attend for other reasons.

Respectfully submitted,
Bob Schwer, K3ZGA
Secretary, TVARC

March 18, 2021 General Membership Meeting (To Be Reported following meeting)

Our March membership meeting was held via Zoom again as the pandemic continues.

New Members Present:

Upcoming birthdays and anniversaries were announced and acknowledged.

Bruce, WA1UTQ presented the Treasurers report for February. He reported 10 new members and 18 renewals including 1 each for 2022, 2023 and 2024. Our total funds as of 1/31/2021 are \$6,858.32.

Our program for the evening was presented by Mike Pilgrim, K5MP It was an interesting and entertaining presentation on the development of George and Karen's contest station and antenna farm at THE LAND.

Posted by Bob Schwer, K3ZGA, Secretary