



The Villages Amateur Radio Club Minutes for October 2020

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.

October 01, 2020 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 George Briggs, K2DM, Secretary Bob Schwer, K3ZGA, Treasurer Bruce Cusanelli, WA1UTQ. Board Member-At-Large, John Ellis, NP2B and Vice President Mark Graybill, W8BIT.

Guests in attendance included: Tom Grosvenor, NV1U, and Rich Erlichman, ND4G

George reported that he has send a TVARC Mug to our speaker last month, Mickey Baker.

Silent Auction Results: Our internet conducted silent auction successfully sold several items donated to the club. Eight members successfully bid on desired items and we raised \$557 for the club.

A few items were not bid on that George felt could be sold on eBay. His offer to list the items was accepted by the board. The few remaining items not sold will be disposed of.

Finances: Bruce reported that dues for 2021 are coming in and a number of members are paying forward for 2022 and even 2023 to help out the club financially during these Covid-19 times, especially since we are not gaining funds from our usual 50/50 raffles at club meetings. Ending balances for September is \$3,622.06 and preliminary October total is \$4,257.06.

Dues were discussed and it was decided that for the near future we will continue our Annual Dues at \$12 per person.

Recreation Center Openings: George reported that as of October 5th recreation center operations will begin opening up with significant restrictions and up to 50% capacity. A floor plan was provided showing how we can meet. There can be no refreshments. The centers will not provide coffee or water. Individuals must bring their own hand sanitizer. While we have been offered our normal day, time and room location, it was agreed that we will decline meeting in person through the end of the year.

Radio on The Square: it was decided not to hold our fall event on the squares. It is not known how we could successfully hold this event while following the current social distancing and crowd control restrictions.

October / November Meeting Programs: Three ideas were discussed. A POTA/SOTA presentation given by someone from the Long Island CW Club. Tom is going to explore this. John Ellis, NP2B, thinks that he could get Harold Kramer, WJ1B, to give a program on his extensive telegraph key collection. Bob, K3ZGA, offered that perhaps Howard Bernstein, WA2UZE, might be willing to talk about the creating and growth of the Long Island CW Club. Tom, John, and Bob are going to coordinate and see what we can line up for the October and November membership meetings.

License Classes and Testing: Brad Castelli, KN9B, has proposed teaching the following classes pending room availability at a Recreation Center.

Technician Class	January 11th thru February 22 nd	6 to 9 PM
General Class	January 12th thru February 23 rd	6 to 9 PM
Testing / VE	March 1st	6 to 9 PM

Nominating Committee for 2021: Mark Graybill, W8BIT, agreed to serve on the Nominating Committee but prefers not to chair. We need to form a committee by the November Board Meeting so a slate of officers can be assembled to present to the membership by January. George announced that after two years of service to TVARC he intends to step aside for someone else in 2021.

Respectfully submitted
Bob Schwer, K3ZGA
Secretary, TVARC

October 15, 2020 General Membership Meeting

Fifty members were present at this meeting. There were two new members and introduced themselves to the club. Bruce reported that our current membership stands at 192 members.

Officers present: President, George Briggs, K2DM, Vice President, Secretary, Bob Schwer, K3ZGA, Treasurer, Bruce Cusanelli, WA1UTQ, Board Member-at-Large, John Ellis, NP2B.

The meeting was again held via Zoom. The social time prior to the start of the business meeting was well attended and enjoyed by the members. The meeting lasted almost two hours.

George, K2DM, gave a recap of the results of our recent online silent auction. The club netted \$557 from the auction plus an additional \$50.67 from items left over that George sold on eBay. The club has become the recipient of additional donated equipment so it was announced that a second silent auction will be held soon.

Bruce, WA1UTQ updated the membership on the status of our treasury and our repeater program during the business meeting. He reminded all that dues for 2021 are now being accepted and reviewed the process for submitting them.

Pete, K2PS updated the membership on the standings in our DXCC, WAS and FT8/4 efforts. Pete also informed us of upcoming contests to be held in the next month.

Our program for the evening was provided by Bob Schwer, K3ZGA on a project being studied by the Long Island CW Club with the intent of utilizing Haptic technology to teach Morse Code to people with vision and hearing loss.

Posted by Bob Schwer, K3ZGA, Secretary