



The Villages Amateur Radio Club Minutes for October 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.

October 7, 2021, Board Meeting

As zoom has proven to be a very convenient vehicle by which to conduct club business, we are continuing to hold our board meetings via this method.

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: Past President, George Briggs, K2DM.

Covid 19 & Restarting In-person Meetings

A discussion was held, and it was unanimously decided that we go back to in-person meetings with the October 21st meeting. The Cookie Monster will also be re-started, along with a 50/50 raffle.

Zoom Equipment Manager

John Ellis, NP2B, for physical reasons has requested that we find someone else to handle the Zoom set up at meetings. The Board suggested that we ask Christopher Townsend, W3CST if he would agree to take this job on.

Education Committee

Brad sent the Board a report on the status of his Education Committee.

October 5th was the first night of the fall General class with 12 students in attendance. The General class will test in early November. Looking forward to February 2022 there are 3 Technician, no General and 9 Extra class registered. More Extras are expected after the ARRL class listing is posted later this month. February Technician and General class decisions will be made by late November.

Please announce the "Amateur Extra Class on Monday evenings January 31st through March 7th, 2022" during the October club meeting.

Brad KN9B

Election of Officers for 2022

It was discussed that the time for election of officers is rapidly approaching. A nominating committee must be selected so that they have time to prepare a slate of officers to be announced at the January meeting. Voting will take place at the February meeting and new officers will take over starting in March.

President Mike Regan announced he would not seek re-election.

Vice President Paul Nittel announced he would not seek re-election.

Secretary Bob Schwer announced he would not seek re-election.

Treasurer Bruce Cusanelli expressed a willingness to continue to serve.

Board Member-at-Large John Ellis expressed a willingness to continue to serve.

Radio on the Square – scheduled for November 27th, 2021

Given the uncertainty of Covid-19 issues pushing the planning of this event to the last minute and that fact that no one has stepped up to volunteer to run the event, the board made the decision to cancel Radio on the Square for this year.

Annual Holiday Party – scheduled for December 16th, 2021

A suggestion was made by Nancy Schwer, KN4ULF that due to continuing safety concerns surrounding buffets that the club have our holiday meal catered by an approved caterer. Following a brief discussion, the board unanimously approved the suggestion.

A committee was selected to secure the services of a caterer and to finalize arrangements for this year's party. Nancy Schwer, Bob Schwer and Paul Nittel will head up this committee. The committee will work on securing some FMK gift certificates and Mike is looking into the possibility of getting gift certificate from the soon to open HRO store in Florida.

We will have room for a total of ten tables as well as room for the entertainment, a small dance floor, and room for the caterer to set up. With eight people to a table, we will have a maximum capacity for 80 people to attend. The party will be funded by the club so there will be no cost of each member + 1 guest.

Treasurers Report

Bruce reported that reporting issues continue with the credit card system. Bruce Cusanelli, WA1UTQ and Rich Erlichman, ND4G continue to work to resolve the issues.

At the end of September, we had a total of 11 new members for the month and a total balance of \$10,866.81 on hand.

For October to date, we have had 3 new members join so far and have a total balance of \$10,882.82 on hand month to date.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Schwer, K3ZGA
Secretary, TVARC

October 21, 2021, General Membership Meeting

This month we went back to meeting in person.

President, Mike Regan, KM4ZTE gave introductory remarks.

Mike announced that there would be no Radio on the Square this year due to timing and staffing issues. Hopefully next year we will be able to resume this popular activity.

The Holiday Party for December was also announced. The date will be December 16th at 6 PM in Eisenhower. It will be free to all members attending, although due to space restrictions it will need to be limited to 80 people. Punchbowl will be utilized for RSVPs and will be turned on as soon as the Board has reviewed and approved all the details. A notice will be posted on the website as well as an announcement made via the club reflector.

Birthdays and anniversaries were announced and acknowledged.

Fifty-Two members attended in person. Three members attended via zoom.

The Silver Springs Hamfest will be held on Saturday, December 4, 2021, at the First Christian Church at 1908 East Fort King Street, Ocala, FL. The doors open at 7:30 am. More details can be found at the silver Springs Radio Club website www.k4gso.us/hamfest.

Ken Kaplan, WB2ART reported on the results of the club's most recent October SKCC Weekend Sprintathon. Three of our members participated, K3ZGA, K2DM and WB2ART. K4VRC came in 2nd of two entries in the new club category. Overall, we placed 22nd out of 258 entries. The club also earned its Tribune x 3 status in our journey to Senator. Next month we plan to operate in the WES again and we hope for additional participation from the membership.

Bruce Cusanelli, WA1UTQ presented the Treasurer's Report for August. Bruce reported eleven new members in September. Our total funds on hand as of the end of September are \$10,704.17.

Peter Stafford, K2PS gave an update on the club members' progress in achieving WAS, DXCC and progress towards other personal operating goals. He updated us on upcoming contests and Dxpeditions.

Our program for the evening was presented by Joe Rudi. It was a very entertaining presentation with stories of his professional baseball career and his journey into ham radio, including his interest in contesting and the construction of his fantastic contest station near the Snake River in Oregon. Joe and his wife, Sharon, N7PAV are now residents of The Villages. We are happy to have them in our community.

Posted by Bob Schwer, K3ZGA, Secretary