

York County Amateur Radio Club

Minutes from the January 8, 2023 Meeting

Meeting was called to order at 1500 hours by Club President Rick Alderette, KB1ASM.

Others present were:

Ernie Record, KB4EFX;

Dan Merrifield, K1DQ;

Tony Baker, AA3HD;

Timothy Wilkins, KB1PRG;

Jim White, KC1ETT

David Bosley, KB1GMK;

Bill Catanesy, KB1CAT;

Joe Bouchard, K1VW;

Michael Robinson, KC1SET;

Susan Bloomfield, WB2UQP;

Paul Cormier, KC1NQU;

Susan Cormier, KC1NQT;

Ron Hirsch, KC1LXI;

Michelle Hirsch, KC1SFB;

Jack Brennan, K1NKS;

Brad Brown, Jr., KC1JMH, and;

Jordan Brown (unlicensed son of KC1JMH.)

Rick, KB1ASM opened the meeting by having those present introduce themselves along with their call signs.

Following introductions, Rick, KB1ASM called for approval of the minutes from the December 04, 2022 meeting. A motion was made and seconded, and was approved by a majority of those present without descent.

Rick, KB1ASM called for the Treasurer's report. Jim, KC1ETT, Treasurer, stated that the Club had \$934.78 with a couple more deposits yet to be made. A motion was made and seconded to approve the Treasurer's report and was approved by a majority of those present without descent.

Rick, KB1ASM explained that we needed to take a vote on changing the name of our club from its predecessor name - Wide Area Amateur Radio Network - to its current name - York County Amateur Radio Club. This was necessary because Partners Bank would not change the name on the account without seeing meeting minutes that reflected the change. Tony, AA3HD explained that when he took over as

Secretary in November 2022 and received the secretarial materials from outgoing club president Dave, AA1LO, there were no past meeting minutes, so if a vote had been taken in the past, there was no record of it. Jim, KC1ETT said that once the name of the club was changed on the bank account, we could begin using PayPal on the account.

A motion was made by Paul, KC1NQU to change the name of the club from Wide Area Amateur Radio Network to York County Amateur Radio Club. The motion was seconded by Bill, KB1CAT. The motion was approved by the membership present with no descent.

Rick, KB1ASM reported for Roger, N1XP – Club Committee Chair for Testing, Licensing, and Education – since Roger was not present. Rick, KB1ASM read from an email that Roger, N1XP had sent him. Some of the things mentioned included the fact that eight got tested at the December 10, 2022 VE session. Everyone passed with three earning their Tech Class licenses, and five earning their General Class licenses. A new 10-week Tech class course will be beginning on January 29th at the Massabesic Center. There may be a VE session in February and another one in April. Roger, N1XP is still soliciting photos from club members to be put up on the club website, and reminds members that the email reflector is open to all members to use. PayPal will be used after the name of the club is changed on the bank account.

Rick, KB1ASM explained that following today's business meeting, Dan, K1DQ will be making a presentation about DMR radio. Rick, KB1ASM asked if anyone was prepared to make a presentation at the February, 05, 2023 meeting. No one responded, so as of now, no presentation is scheduled for the February 2023 meeting. Bill, KB1CAT mentioned that perhaps Dave, AA1LO could make a presentation, but since Dave, AA1LO was not present, this could not be confirmed.

Rick, KB1ASM, as Public Information Officer (PIO), has informed those in Little Rock, Arkansas in charge of the submarine *USS Razorback* that our club will not be participating in any special recognition activities having to do with the September 2023 80th anniversary of the *Razorback's* keel being laid in Kittery. This decision was made as it seemed there was not much club interest in the matter.

Continuing with old business, Rick, KB1ASM asked for discussion regarding making a contribution in memory of Silent Key Paul Gooch, KY1C to either the Bass Hill Repeater Group and/or the Pine Tree Council of the Boy Scouts of America. A motion was made and seconded that the club should make contributions to both groups. The motion was approved by the majority of those present with no descent. A motion was made and seconded for the club to donate \$100.00 dollars to each group, (\$200.00 total.) The motion was approved by the majority of those present

with no descent. Sympathy cards were passed around for the membership to sign with regards to the donations. Jim, KC1ETT will be mailing out the donation checks.

Tim, KB1PRG gave a summary of the Bass Hill repeater situation in Alfred. This is the repeater that the club uses for its weekly Thursday night nets. The repeater is a MSF 2000 from the 1980's-early 90's. It is working fine, but is old. It could last another 20 years, or it might just last another two days. Tim has been to the repeater site and did some maintenance on some of the connections that were in need of service. Tim, KB1PRG has been in touch with both Tom Marshall of the Bass Hill Repeater Group and Dave Francour of the York County EMA regarding the repeater. The EMA owns the repeater site and pays for the electricity the repeater uses. Tim, KB1PRG said the Bass Hill Repeater Group is due to make a decision 'early this year' regarding the disposition of the repeater now that Paul, KY1C has passed. Tim, KB1PRG is waiting to hear back from Mr. Marshall. Should the Bass Hill Repeater Group decide to remove the repeater, Tim, KB1PRG has one he will put into operation to replace it. Also, Dave Francour has indicated that the EMA also would replace the repeater if need be. Finally, Tim, KB1PRG encouraged everyone to use the repeater because if the frequencies it and other repeaters are on are not used, we may lose those frequencies for amateur radio use.

Discussion of having a plaque naming the club radio room in memory of Paul, KY1C was tabled until Dave, AA1LO was present at a meeting.

Tony, AA3HD handed out an information sheet regarding Winter Field Day, (JAN 28-29, 2023), operations. As it was not clear if the club radio station would have and HF antenna in time for centralized operations, no definitive decision was made regarding the club participating in the event. Susan WB2UQP mentioned that it probably would be possible for members to participate from their home shacks using the club callsign.

Rick, KB1ASM then opened the floor to general discussion. Brad, KC1JMH mentioned that according to Roger, N1XP there are some packet node updates. Also, Brad, KC1JMH donated a tuner and a coax patch cable for the club radio room. Finally, Brad, KC1JMH mentioned that a possible activity the club might want to do is a radio programming session. Such a program went over well in Ellsworth with Phil, N1EP.

Rick, KB1ASM adjourned the business meeting at 1540 and turned the floor over to Dan, K1DQ who made a presentation on DMR radio and the New England Digital Emergency Communication Network. The presentation ended at 1630.

Respectfully submitted,

Tony Baker, AA3HD, Secretary, York County Amateur Radio Club

Attachment: N1XP email of 11/30/2022, 10:05 PM