

York County Amateur Radio Club

Minutes from the June 04, 2023 Meeting

Meeting was called to order at 1502 hours by Club President Rick Alderette, KB1ASM.

Others present were:

Dave Johnson, AA1LO;

Tony Baker, AA3HD (Secretary);

Dan Merrifield, K1DQ (Vice-President);

Michelle Hirsch, K1MPH (Treasurer);

Ronald Hirsch, KR1K;

David Wood, KB1FGF;

Brad Brown, Jr., KC1JMH;

Jordan Brown (unlicensed son of KC1JMH);

Roger Pience, N1XP, and;

Bruce Washburn, KC1RUJ.

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

Following introductions, Rick, KB1ASM asked for approval of the 07 May 2023 meeting minutes. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes. The motion was approved by the membership present without descent.

Rick, KB1ASM then asked Michelle, K1MPH for the Treasurer's report. Michelle reported that the club has \$1,014.78, and had no expenses and no revenue over the past month. The motion was approved by the membership present without descent.

Rick, KB1ASM then asked Roger, N1XP for the Education/VE report. Roger reported that a Technician's class may be scheduled for September at Massabesic at a cost of \$25.00 if the cost remains the same as last year. Roger is also willing to teach an Extra class to a smaller class than what is required at Massabesic if there was a place to meet and the students would buy the text book. Coming VE sessions are scheduled in Whitefield, Topsham, and Skowhegan. Our club might do one in the fall if desired. The packet system in Maine is working well. There was discussion on whether or not the node at the Wells Town Hall needs to be re-activated because the node at K1DQ's has such great coverage. It might be nice to get nodes at either Berwick, Kittery, or some other location near the New Hampshire border. It might be worth approaching the Portsmouth HAM club on the matter. Dave, AA1LO has an antenna to donate for another BPQ node. The club website development is ongoing and more pictures are still needed. Roger is looking for ideas for club programs for next year starting in September. Dan, K1DQ suggested a mesh network presentation. Roger will attempt to contact Bill Richardson to do a mesh

presentation. Dave, AA1LO would like to see a presentation on satellites. Rick, KB1ASM handed out a sheet for the members to jot down what they'd like to see in the way of presentations. The completed list was given to Roger. (A hard-copy of Roger's report is attached to the file copy of these minutes.)

As Public Information Officer, Rick KB1ASM reported that he had gotten announcements regarding the club's Field Day activities in the newspaper *Reporter*, and was attempting to get announcements in the *Sentinel*, and *American Journal*.

With regards to the Field Day Committee report, Rick, KB1ASM stated that he and Roger, N1XP had visited the Field Day site at the Hollis recreation field and the club would be putting up a sloping dipole. Michelle, K1MPH reported she had no notifications of volunteers for Field Day. Dave, KB1FGF said he will bring coffee, and some HT's. Tony, AA3HD, said he would bring an HF radio, power supply, and antenna tuner. Roger, N1XP will be there with a digital radio. Bruce, K1RUJ said he also had an HF rig that could be used. Brad mentioned that he might be able to stop by and help out for a while, and that having extra HT's for talk around was a good thing. It was decided that operating times for Field Day will be determined as we go. It was unclear if Bill, KB1CAT would be bringing his ambulance.

Dave, AA1LO said the club is all set for Haborfest operations on 29 July 2023. Bill, KB1CAT will be bringing his ambulance, and the York County EMA Emergency Communications van will be there. Dave, AA1LO said members should be there to set-up by no later than 10:00 AM. It was remarked that perhaps information regarding our events could be put on the club's Facebook page. This led to a discussion that the administrator - John Martell -- for the club Facebook page has not been to any meetings since before Covid. Dave, AA1LO will attempt to get a hold of Martell. Brad, KC1JMH said he could take over the administration of the club Facebook page.

In new business, Rick, KB1ASM proposed that the club might sponsor Cindy Halbet in a Tech Class in order for her to get her license, and if she passes, to give her a first year of membership at ARRL. After discussion by the membership, it was decided that Rick would contact Cindy to see if she would be interested in getting her amateur Tech license, and if so, the club would then take up possibly covering the financial costs. Roger, N1XP mentioned that he would try to contact John Tarbox of the York County Community College (YCCC) to see if classes could be given at the YCCC that could include some YCCC students.

Michelle, K1MPH stated that she has been trying to construct an up to date club membership list. With an older list and few if any current records, she has made up a new list in spread sheet format, but she is not sure how current the information is. For example, much of the information for the ARRL Membership and License Class columns is missing. Brad, KC1JMH suggested that software called HAMClubonline.com might be useful/helpful. After more membership discussion, it was decided to wait until the September meeting to make any updates. September was chosen as that is when annual dues are due. An email will be sent out in August encouraging members to attend the September meeting. As an incentive to get attendance in September, it will be mentioned in the August email that the door

prize at the September meeting will be two tickets to Fall 2023 Nearfest. (The tickets were donated to the club by the Nearfest staff.)

Dave, AA1LO inquired about whether the club wanted to continue to have its meetings at the Wells Town Hall next year on the first Sunday of the month, i.e., beginning in September 2023. The general consensus of the members was yes...continue at the Wells Town Hall. Dave said he would be sure to get our meetings on the schedule for the room.

Tony, AA3HD reported that he had received an application for club membership from David Wood, KB1FGF. A vote was taken by the membership to admit David into the club. David was approved for membership without descent.

Brad, KC1JMH mentioned that International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend is 19-20 August this year, and that some members of the Wireless Society of Southern Maine will be at Nubble Lighthouse. Information regarding the event can be found at ILLW.net on the internet.

Roger, N1XP won the door prize.

The meeting was adjourned at 15:52 by Rick, KB1ASM.

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

Attachments to file copy: Roger, N1XP June 04, 2023 Report.