

York County Amateur Radio Club

Minutes from the May 05, 2024 Meeting

Club President Rick Alderette, KB1ASM brought the meeting to order at 1503 hours. Rick had those in attendance introduce themselves.

The others present were:

Dave Johnson, AA1LO;

Tony Baker, AA3HD (Secretary);

Dan Merrifield, K1DQ ;

Michelle Hirsch, K1MPH (Treasurer);

Susan Richardson, KC1BSQ;

Ronald Hirsch, KR1K;

Jack Brennan, K1NKS (Vice-President);

Bill Catanesye, KB1CAT;

Bruce Washburn, KC1RUJ;

Roger Pience, N1XP;

Susan Cormier, KC1NQT;

Paul Cormier, KC1NQU;

Burdette Amen, AA1YC, and;

Rob Sylvester, AA1BS.

No one in attendance had any announcements, however, Rick, KB1ASM thanked Paul Cormier, KC1NQU for being the net control operator during the Thursday May 02, 2024 weekly club radio net.

Rick, KB1ASM, turned the meeting over to Roger, N1XP who gave a presentation on transmission lines and selecting coax. Roger entertained a variety of questions during the presentation which was well received by the club members present.

Following the presentation, Rick, KB1ASM, asked for a motion to approve the April 2024 club meeting minutes as they were posted on the club website. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes, which were approved by the membership present without dissent.

Next, Rick, KB1ASM, called on Michelle (Treasurer), K1MPH, to give the Treasurer's report. Michelle stated that the club began and ended April with \$1,108.25. There were no expenses and no income during April. A motion was made and seconded to accept Michelle's report, which in turn was approved by the membership present without dissent.

Rick, KB1ASM, as Public Information Officer stated that he was in the process of making signage for the club table at the ARRL Maine Convention in June in Augusta. He also stated that Saco River TV is in the process of changing its equipment, so he has been staying away until they get it done. In response to a question, Rick stated that he could do a video on the club's activities at the coming ARRL Field Day in June.

Rick, KB1ASM, opened the floor to discussion regarding the club's participation on ARRL Field Day in June. Jack, K1NKS visited the Field Day site and reported that we will be operating in a covered pavilion that has commercial power. Jack will also take on the responsibility of being the Safety Officer, and will provide a generator to power transceivers. Other equipment can be on commercial power at the site. Jack also has computer logging software that can be networked with Field Day operators, so operators should bring their laptops. However, the logging software only works in Windows, not Apple. Bill, KB1CAT will be staying overnight with his ambulance/camper that also has 400 watts of solar panels. Burdette, AA1YC, may also stay overnight in a camper at the Field Day site. Although not specifically planned for, it is possible that we could have a Get On The Air (GOTA) opportunity at our Field Day site as well. Dave, AA1LO had the application form for the Field Day site which he and Rick signed. The town of Wells waived the fee to use the Field Day site. Dave will be sure we have access to the lavatory, but will have to check on whether or not we will have access to the kitchen. Dave also suggested that those club members that wanted to look over the Field Day site should meet at 2:00PM – one hour prior to the June meeting – at the Field Day site to see the accommodations and see how antennas might be set up. Dave stated that if wire antennas needed to be put up in trees, he could get the fire department to put pulley lines up ahead of time for us. Dave asked Rick to send out an email reminder to the club members regarding the Field Day site inspection prior to the June meeting.

For new business, Rick, KB1ASM, stated that Susan, KC1BSQ, had filled out an application and had paid her dues to join the club. A motion was made and seconded to approve Susan as a member in the club, which was approved by the members present without dissent.

Rick, KB1ASM, noted that Maine Parks On The Air (POTA) Day is 18 May. According to the POTA website, a club call sign can be used during POTA activations, although certain guidelines must be followed that are enumerated on the POTA website. It seems that one needs at least 10 contacts to get a recognized POTA activation. It was unclear if any club members would actually be operating on Maine POTA Day.

Rick, KB1ASM stated that he and Tony, AA3HD, will be going to Augusta to represent the Club at the ARRL Maine Convention on 15 June. Rick is making the arrangements to get the club a table at the convention, and will be reimbursed by the club for the \$20.00 cost per club vote that was taken during the April 2024 meeting. Rick also stated that any other club members who wanted to attend could do so. As noted in the April meeting, club members wishing to attend must pay for their own admission, which is \$5.00 in advance, or \$10.00 at the door.

Rick, KB1ASM, confirmed with Bill, KB1CAT, that the club will be operating at the Trolley Museum on 25 August. There was discussion regarding finding a different location from which to operate at the Trolley Museum than the location for last year. Bill said to just let him know on a day club members might want to do a site survey, and it is likely a new location could be had.

Susan, KC1NQT, won the door prize -- an ARRL grid square atlas, an HRO catalog, and a ladder line terminator.

The Yaesu FT-1200 that Burdette, AA1YC, donated to the club was taken to the club radio room in the Town Office.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting, which the membership present approved without dissent.

The meeting was adjourned at 16:09 by Rick, KB1ASM

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