

York County Amateur Radio Club

Minutes from the November 03, 2024 Meeting

Club President Rick Alderette, KB1ASM brought the meeting to order at 1505 hours. Rick introduced himself and then had those present introduce themselves.

Others present at today's meeting were:

Dave Johnson, AA1LO;

Tony Baker, AA3HD, Secretary;

Rob Sylvester, AA1BS;

Ernie Record, KB4EFX, Account Custodian;

Bill Catanesye, KB1CAT;

Steve Brunelle, KC1UIV;

Bill Lord, KC1SSO;

Brad Brown Jr., KC1JMH, and;

Susan Richardson, KC1BSQ

Rick, KB1ASM showed a video he produced in September 2023 about the Special Event Station at the USS Razorback commemorating the 80th anniversary of the laying of her keel at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard in Kittery, Maine. Following the video Rick received numerous compliments on the video which in turn generated several conversations regarding submarines including Steve's, KC1UIV experience working in the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. Rick mentioned his next video likely would involve the USS North Carolina. Rob, AA1BS stated that there was an actual amateur radio club operating on the USS New Jersey.

Rick, KB1ASM asked for a motion to approve the October 2024 club meeting minutes. A motion was made by Dave, AA1LO and then seconded, which was approved by the membership present without dissent.

Rick, KB1ASM asked Ernie, KB4EFX, Account Custodian, for the Treasurer's report. According to Ernie, outgoing Treasurer Michelle, K1MPH had told Ernie the account had \$1,048.25. Rick asked for a motion to approve the Treasurer's report. A motion was made by Dave, AA1LO and then seconded, which was approved by the membership present without dissent.

Rick, KB1ASM reminded the club that Roger, N1XP had withdrawn from the club and would no longer be providing the education report, however, Bill, KC1SSO has taken over the website. Rick turned the floor over to Bill who stated that he had updated the website and would now try to keep it up to date. Bill mentioned that there was a lot of information on the website that had collected over the years and that not all of it may necessarily be relevant. Bill suggested a more visual interface, but reminded the club that there are related costs to maintaining a website, such as paying for the website, the space it takes up, the host, and the software. Club dues would be necessary if we wanted to keep a club website. Rick stated that in the past, Roger had paid the associated expenses of maintaining the club website out of his own pocket. Rick also mentioned that there were other members, such as Bruce, KC1RUJ, who had made significant contributions in the past.

As Public Information Officer, Rick, KB1ASM stated that he had contacted the Buxton/Hollis Rod and Gun Club regarding club operations there during Winter Field Day (WFD) – 25-26 January 2025. Rick feels confident that the club will again be able to operate from the Rod and Gun Club, but it must first be approved by the Rod and Gun Club membership. Those present supported again operating during WFD at the Rod and Gun Club. Rob's, AA1BS, suggestion for planning WFD activities at the December club meeting was met with approval by the membership present. Rick also mentioned a possible 'food competition' between club members at WFD activities to cut down food expenses during WFD operations. For example, members could make chili's or desserts with the best one's winning some award.

Rick, KB1ASM asked if anyone present wanted to fill the vacant officer positions of President, Secretary, or Treasurer. Susan, KC1BSQ nominated herself for the office of President. Ernie, KB4EFX made a motion to accept Susan as President which Rob, AA1BS seconded and the membership present approved without dissent. Susan said she would take over the President's duties at December's meeting. Dave, AA1LO nominated himself for the office of Secretary. Brad, KC1JMC made a motion to accept Dave as Secretary which Bill, KB1CAT seconded and the membership present approved without dissent, (although Dave jokingly raised his hand in dissent.) Dave will be taking over the Secretarial duties at the January meeting. Ernie indicated it was likely he would take over the Treasurer's duties, but would wait until the December meeting to make a final decision.

Rick, KB1ASM called for discussion on making a contribution to the Shaker Museum. Bill, KB1CAT made a motion to donate \$50.00 which Tony, AA3HD seconded and the membership present approved without dissent.

Tony, AA3HD asked Dave, AA1LO about putting a Public Service Announcement (PSA) regarding the club on the Town of Wells community TV. Dave said it shouldn't be a problem and to get him the information. Rick, KB1ASM stated other towns in York County should also be able to have such a PSA and Rob, AA1BS agreed as well.

Rick, KB1ASM opened the floor for discussion regarding the proposed new Constitution and By-Laws that the task force of Susan, KC1BSQ, Ernie, KB4EFX, Dave, AA1LO, and Tony, AA3HD came up with to fill gaps in the club's previous By-Laws. Brad, KC1JMH, noted that there appeared to be some unclear and/or circular wording in Article II Section 4; Section VI of the Constitution, and; Section 4 of the By-Laws regarding dissolution. Rob, AA1BS made a motion to accept the new proposed Constitution and By-Laws subject to the correction of the wording in question* which Susan seconded and the membership present approved without dissent.

Regarding a suggestion Rick, KB1ASM made about the club purchasing two ARRL 2025 calendars to be used as Door Prize giveaways at the December and January meetings, Dave, AA1LO said he would purchase the calendars and donate them to the club for the giveaways.

For new business, Dave, AA1LO mentioned it should be a goal of the club to get new amateur radio operators. Dave stated that he is currently 'elmering' a young man with disabilities in Old Orchard Beach get his FCC amateur radio license. He went on to state that he has probably helped over 30 people get their FCC licenses over the years. Dave opined that as members we should all be promoting amateur radio and all be

mentors. (Note: one of the purposes stated in the club's new Constitution and By-Laws states in part "... *strive to conduct programs and activities that will advance the general interest and welfare of amateur radio, and to encourage and assist non-licensed members in obtaining their FCC amateur radio license.*") Brad, KC1JMH mentioned that he and a friend built an inexpensive HF radio kit when he started out in HAM radio and that was a real help to him.

Rob, AA1BS mentioned a free app at HAMS.live that allows users to listen to 10 different SDR's. The app was developed by W5IUA.

In terms of outreach by the club, Bill, KC1SSO asked about our club's presentation in the Wells Jr. High earlier this year. Tony, AA3HD stated that he and Roger, N1XP made the presentation, but that Roger basically did all the explaining of formulas and math concepts. It was likely that that would not be able to be done again without Roger's assistance. Other opportunities for outreach that were mentioned in general discussion included a possible amateur radio demonstration at a library, and getting in with a high school. Susan, KC1BSQ stated that by getting with a high school it could be advantageous for both our club and the students in that we could get more youthful members and the students could get experience in community activities and build their resumes for college. Ernie, KB4EFX mentioned that the NERDS club in Kennebunk was going to be operating amateur radios at the Brick Store Museum in Kennebunk.

The door prize – an ARRL Operating Manual – was won by Bill, KB1CAT.

The meeting was adjourned at 17:04 by Rick, KB1ASM following a motion that was seconded and approved by the members present without dissent.

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

*The last five words of Article II Section 4 of the Constitution were changed from "Section 4 of these By-Laws" to "Article VI". This sentence now reads in part, "...*The Club must consider dissolution or merger as delineated in **Article VI.***" Additionally, Section 4 of the By-Laws regarding Dissolution was removed in totality and Section 5 of the By-Laws – Ratification -- was re-numbered to be Section 4.