

Green Valley Amateur Radio Club Board Meeting Minutes

The August meeting of the Board and requested members at large of the Green Valley Amateur Radio Club was held on August 4th, 2020 at 1:00 P.M. The meeting was convened through video conference due to the pandemic.

Attendees:

Tom Smith, K7AFA, President
Ron Phillips, AARP, Vice President
Gary Carroll, W0QN, Treasurer
Jeanne Crane, KJ7HCP, Secretary
Jon Otto, AD7GS
Bruce Tewksbury, K3BAT
Rick Rogers, K7RCR
Ed Toal, N9MW

Motions:

A motion was made and passed to allow Linda Bock access to the club roster despite not being a Ham operator. Linda provides a valuable and appreciated service to the club by coordinating Drive Outs, and access is necessary for her to perform this function.

A motion was made and passed to hold monthly club meetings solely by Zoom while social distancing is a requirement. The logistics of holding meetings simultaneously on 2 meter and Zoom are difficult and not always possible with club members traveling.

Updates

Antennas:

A discussion was held on the attributes of a Digital Mobile Radio (DMR) antenna. DMR allows for long distance communications through a repeater, can connect to the internet, and allows for chat rooms. It can be used for digital or analog radios and is considered to be both versatile and effective. An outside party has contacted the club regarding the possibility of placing a DMR antenna at the Elephant Head site. The concept raises concerns (liability, access to the site by non club members, and maintenance). While there are concerns, there are also advantages to be considered (community service of extending DMR capabilities and extending our club mission). Discussion included pros and cons, and floated the idea of purchasing our own DMR antenna versus allowing a second party access to the site. A Reflector message will be sent out directing members to a survey on the Members Only page of the GVARC website. The survey will help to determine if the club has any interest in committing resources to DMR.

Zoom Account:

A Club Zoom account has not yet been established as we have not received communication back from Zoom regarding multiple hosts. Tom Smith will make some additional inquiries.

V/E Testing:

ARRL is pursuing remote V/E testing. GVARC can provide remote educational assistance.

Consignment Store:

We have made one sale through the consignment store, with 20% of the proceeds going to the club. More equipment has been received on consignment, and some high quality items will be posted within the next week.

Volunteers Needed:

Volunteers are needed for both the Nominations Committee and the Christmas Party Committee. In addition, the club continues to solicit for Net Controllers. Please check your schedules and see if you can offer some time for any of these programs.

Club Trailer:

The trailer needs to be registered by a board member; Gary Carroll will follow through as the club Treasurer.

Discussion:

Ed Toal would like the Board to discuss the potential purchase of a Spectrum Analyzer, which would be useful for troubleshooting, DF, and identifying interference. Prices on this type of equipment are drastically reduced.

Ed would also like to consider the Board to consider the possibility of doing a Valentine's Day event with social distancing if necessary. The club has held Valentines Day events in the past and Ed would like to see the practice continue.

Jeanne Crane
Secretary, GVARC