

Green Valley Amateur Radio Club Board Meeting Minutes

The September meeting of the Board and requested members at large of the Green Valley Amateur Radio Club was held on September 1st, 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
Rick Rogers, K7RCR
Ed Toal, N9MW
Tom Lang, K7VOA

Discussion:

Discussion was held on Digital Mobile Radio (DMR) installation. In addition to the current offer to allow an interested party to install DMR on Elephant Head, the club has received a second offer from another party wishing to donate a DMR repeater and duplexers to the club. Pros and cons were discussed for each offer. The first offer would not require any funds or maintenance from the club, but currently that party is having difficulty finding an available UHF frequency pair. While the club has access to a repeater frequency pair, we are reluctant to relinquish control to another party as frequency pairs are hard to come by.

The second offer would require the club to purchase cable and an antenna (although 150 ft of cable has recently been donated to the club and may offset part of the expense), and the club would be responsible for maintenance.

Motions:

A motion was made to accept both DMR offers, with the intent of obtaining the equipment and waiting to see if the first party could arrange a frequency pair for the first offer. In the meantime, the donated DMR repeater could be installed at the SAV at some point in the future.

Updates:

Asset Insurance-

Inventory has been completed. The next step is to evaluate the high value items to be insured. The tower on Elephant Head is owned by GVARC and will be added to the inventory to be insured. The tower at the SAV is not club property.

Country Store & Consignments -

Between the two, approximately \$1500 has been added to the club coffers. For the time being, the Country Store and Consignments will be on hold due to the illness of the club member taking responsibility for these sales.

Treasurer - The treasurer provided his report. The Club President also requested that we begin monthly reporting of expenditures as well as income to simplify year end reporting.

Nominating Committee:

Bruce Tewksbury is stepping back from the Nominating Committee due to health concerns. We need one more volunteer for the committee. The job consists primarily of making phone calls and meeting for coffee to discuss potential nominations. At this juncture, finding a nominee for the position of President is at the forefront.

Net Scheduling:

Finding Net Controllers continues to be a concern. The Oatmeal and Snowbird Nets are holding their own. Dropping the Sunday night Net was discussed. A suggestion was made to hold a Technical Presentation Net once a month in place of the Sunday Net. As for now, the Sunday Net will be self directed.

Amateur Radio Council of Arizona (ARCA) -

Brief discussion between ARCA and Arizona Desert Highways. Both entities are communities of Ham Radio Clubs. Arizona Desert Highways publishes the monthly newsletters of various Ham radio clubs. As GVARC has no newsletter, affiliation would be of little use. The Club President requested Rick Rogers to evaluate whether an affiliation with ARCA would be of interest as they cover the full spectrum of Ham Radio topics.

V/E Testing -

Two options available, testing at a local park with social distancing (which has proven successful with other clubs). Also newly available is a free software program which allows Zoom testing. The software program allows for an online video sweep to deter malfeasance, online collection of fees, online grading and feedback, scheduling and signatures.

Between the two options, we hope to offer testing as early as next month.

SAV -

Still closed, no projected opening date.

Christmas Party -

May not occur in person due to the pandemic.

Road Clean Up -

Scheduled for Sept 12th, 7:00 a.m., meeting at Taco Bell, social distancing will be in effect. So far only 3 members have volunteered, we could use a dozen.

Jeanne Crane
Secretary, GVARC