

GVARC Board Minutes December 1st, 2020

Present: Tom Smith, Ron Phillips, Gary Carroll, Tom Lang, Bruce Tewksbury, Rick Rogers, Jon Otto, and John Perlick.

Officer Reports:

President:

- Update on efforts to get inventory finalized for insurance purposes. Bruce and Ron have given estimates for those items that are worth \$150 or more and worth insuring. Next step is to file with ARRL.
- VE testing will occur December 14th with 5 or 6 testing for technician class.
- Net scheduling – seems to be going more smoothly with volunteers stepping forward.
- Rick (not present until end of meeting) has volunteered to chair Winter Field Day and 7QP, but will be gone for Field Day in June.
- The renewal of the agreement with the SAV has been signed and received by Pima County. It's good for five years, and there were no changes from the old agreement.
- Reminder that Winter Field Day is Jan 28-29. More to follow on that.
- Road cleanup will be March 20th at 7 a.m. Sharon Smith is still chairing that effort (and BTW, is a new GVARC life member).
- Also, it's time to consider a spring picnic. We will possibly be out of the COVID restrictions by March, the timeframe of our traditional picnic (before the Snowbirds all fly north for the summer). More to follow.

VP:

- DMR repeater still being programmed in Las Vegas. Will give update when it's being delivered. No further word since last month's meeting.

Treasurer:

- \$0 spent this past month; \$230 of income (\$100 of which was new life member).
- \$7705.07 current balance of general fund, \$2018 in repeater fund.
- Debit card from bank still not received. They are getting one to Gary.

Secretary: No report

Committees:

Country Store: Bruce reports that some items have not sold. He's keeping them on the Country Store page of the website as "buy it now" items.

Old Business:

- Included in officer reports

New Business:

- SAV Issues: The board discussed the following issues:
 - The Swan amp has bad tubes and needs new ones.
 - We need a simpler rig – the Yaesu is too complex, especially for new hams, and the trouble calls generally are a result of someone inadvertently messing up something in the complex menu.
 - We may wish to reconsider the antenna configuration for simplicity while still maintaining good operating capability.
 - We should strive for better accessibility to the SAV station, including, but not limited to, exploring capabilities to operate the club's equipment remotely. (This capability once existed, but was removed because it wasn't being used).

Discussion:

- The board considered whether it would be better to buy new tubes for the amp or replace it, preferably with a solid state amp. Initially, there was a motion to sell it and replace it now with a solid state amp. The consensus was to withdraw the initial motion to do so, and replace it with a motion to simply sell the Swan amp as-is, and operate barefoot until a decision can be made on the acquisition of a new amp. Motion was made by Bruce to do so, seconded by Gary; motion passed.
- The decision on the other SAV ham room issues was deferred until we evaluate alternatives and readdress in a subsequent meeting.

Planning for 2021: President-elect John Perlick

John discussed his planning for 2021, including confirming people for various functions within the club, and replacing those who choose not to continue going forward. He will be working on that task for the next couple of weeks.

John also feels strongly that we need to improve usage of the club's station. We discussed at length the access issues, training issues, documentation issues, facility limitations, and alternate equipment options, as well as the need to restore remote operation capability.

John also wishes to better determine the inputs of club members on a wide array of interests and preferences for how the club should move forward. To that end, he is initiating a process that will begin with a comprehensive survey of members.

Notes by K7AFA due to Secretary's absence.