

Holland Amateur Radio Club Annual Board Meeting Minutes – Tuesday 1/2/24

Meeting called to order by President Ed K8DI at 6:30pm

Present:

Officers

President Ed Walters K8DI

Vice President Mike Koster K8NWN

Secretary (interim) Rich Anderson WA8MTI

Treasurer Rich Anderson WA8MTI

Chairs

Education /EAT Jeff Nonhof KD8THX

Education /VE Bob Broene K8RJB

Station/Repeater Tom Bosscher K8TB

OCEC Phil Van Huis K8PVH

Trustee Dave Lamer WA8RSA

Guests

Zach Bennett KEBSM

Bob Roon K8ABG

Kaitlin McLaughlin KD9NRB

President Ed: K8DI – comments and ideas

- Focused on learning the infrastructure of the club – the roles everyone has and getting to know club members better.
- Plans to use the year of 2024 and have events be more organized and better planned.
- Find a permanent, fixed meeting location. Encouraged everyone present at the meeting to reach out to the contacts they hold and see if we can find a new and viable meeting location.

Vice President Mike: K8NWN – comments and ideas

- Observed in agreement with Ed that we drifted as a club, and it made monthly meetings hard and challenging. Also, explains why attendance and numbers were down a bit. A huge thank you to Tom K8TB and Sheila for all the wonderful and hard work they both put into Summer Field Day. Couldn't have been the success it was without them. Big wish and goal for the club for 2024: get more members involved at meetings and events.
- Reiterated the same concern and point that President Ed shared: the club needs to find a viable, consistent meeting place that doesn't cost a ton of money.

Club Treasurer & Interim Secretary Rich: WA8MTI – comments, ideas, and overview

- Gave an overview of the yearly budget and a breakdown of club finances. The idea was proposed of any fund raisers be done for the club if equipment or items needed

for club events. If done, how would they be conducted? Highlighted past fundraiser ideas.

- Explained the club's working budget and how we have done well as a club staying within our means.
- General Club Observation: more programs are desired. What does this look like? How do we change things? How do we get more members involved?

Education and Training Supervisor Jeff: KD8THX

- EAT Meetings can serve as a gateway to get people involved in Ham Radio with electronics and Makers events by partnering with GroundWorks at Herrick District Library.
- He would eventually like to split EAT Meetings into two groups. One group would focus on electronics and the other would focus on Ham Radio. Hands on programs work better and are received better instead of just presentations.
- Herrick District Library likes us using their space for meetings. However, their renovation project delays the club from having a consistent meeting spot.

VE Testing and Ham-in-a-Day Supervisor Bob: K8RJB

- Highlighted all the VE Sessions and Ham in a Day sessions that took place in 2023.
- Numbers were provided on how many people tested and either upgraded licenses or received new ones for the first time.

Club Member Tom K8TB: comments and ideas

- Highlighted that Field Day is the club's biggest PR Event for both summer and winter.
- Proposed the idea of having Summer Field Day take place within Holland city limits to offer better exposure and generate interest for the club.
- Highlighted all the various types of equipment and antennas the club uses and how they are monitored and maintained in many ways.
- Discussed repeater system upkeep and upgrades. Will present to club an overview later this year.

Field Day Committee: comments and ideas

- Two field Days – need chairs further in advance, more planning.
- Tom shared several ideas.

OCEC Committee: comments and ideas

- Phil K8PVH to be the club's liaison between HARC and OCEC so that way HARC can keep track of events, know when future OCEC events take place, and stay informed.
- Phil also talked about our participation in Park2Park, Spark in the Park, Coast Guard Festival, and more

Building and Facilities Committee

- Unchaired/deprecated.

Old Business:

- Need to nominate and elect a Secretary. Members asked to help find a willing volunteer.
- Meeting locations, Herrick North for January, Chick-owa February and March. Need a permanent home.

New Business:

- Ed discussed club governance, concepts of member vs. board run clubs, especially due to lack of quorums impacting operation.
- State filings need to be polished up a bit.
- Recruitment/retention/participation. Club membership has 'churn' Same core group does almost everything. We need to expand participation into a larger part of our membership. Retaining paid-up membership is a struggle.
- Membership committee was proposed and designed a year ago, but not implemented. Time to do that.
- Ed discussed goals for the club, many of which were brought up as the meeting progressed.
- Concluded the annual board meeting.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:20pm.