

Tamiami Amateur Radio Club
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
September 8, 2020

The meeting was held via video conference. President Shortill called the meeting to order at 11:30 AM.

Officers:

Jim Shortill, KJ4NDO, President
Steve Phillips, NS4P, Vice President
Patti Phillips, N4IGI, Recording Secretary
Frank Wroblewski, W2XYZ, Treasurer

Board of Directors:

Peter Boers, KV4LR	Paul Nienaber, KN4BAR
Andy Durette, KB1HIP - absent	Tom Shrilla, W8QJF
Chet Fennell, KG4IYS	San Yoder, K3SY
Gary Hagens, K60C	

Guest:

Tom Porada, W4IEE

Summary of topics discussed:

1. **June 2020 Field Day Recap** – Jim Shortill, KJ4NDO, reported that approximately a dozen TARC members participated in Field Day on June 27 – 28. This year there was a rule waiver allowing operators of “1D” home stations to contact other “1D” stations for points. Some bands (i.e., 20m and 40m) were more popular than others. Paul Bourque from ARRL Radiosport mentioned to Jim that the official rankings for Field Day will be published in the December issue of QST magazine.
2. **Monetary Donation** – TARC received a \$250 monetary donation from the Fidelity Charitable Donor-Advised Fund on behalf of Dennis & Jill Hudson that will go towards repairing some of the repeater equipment that was hit by lightning in July. It is believed that this is the largest monetary donation received from a non-TARC member or their family.
3. **Repeater Maintenance Committee** – Chet Fennell, KG4IYS, mentioned that there have been three lightning strikes at the repeater site since July. Everything should be on a surge protector. The team has been busy cleaning and organizing the shack, repairing the IC-7300, testing the generator, etc.. The tower climber is coming to the site next week to do an assessment. Chet shared some site pictures and will present them to the club at the October meeting.

4. **Remote Club Station** – Tom Shrilla, W8QJF, stated the remote station is running well on 20m; he can hear well on 40m, and 80m, but cannot transmit. Tom is only able to restart the camera remotely. Frank suggested installing WYSE to reboot the Raspberry Pi. Tom has developed the following YouTube videos on how to use the station:
Part 1: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l--oiocAWN4>
Part 2: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wf0vC67CJc8&t=5s>
If you log on and another ham is operating you will receive a message to select cancel and wait for the operator to finish his session. The cost associated with operating the Remote Station includes \$70 per year for Remote TX plus \$60 per year per user.
5. **SERC Proposal** – Steve Phillips, NS4P, is in email communications with Gary Wells, WB9AYD, President of SERC and Den Spiess, W2DEN, to get a technical expert to help in extending the ARES coverage to southern Sarasota County. This would involve linking the Englewood repeater to the Laurel repeater at a maximum cost of approximately \$1,000. This proposal is still under consideration by the Board and will be presented to the membership once more information is gathered.
6. **Club Equipment** – Steve, NS4P, mentioned that he has lots of donated ham equipment still in his garage and trailer that is available at very reasonable prices. Jim, KJ4NDO, is also compiling a list of items in his garage. If interested, please send Steve a note before the equipment goes to a hamfest to be sold. It appears there may be some hamfests coming up soon on the Atlantic coast. The complete list of equipment is available in The Communicator and on Groups.io.
7. **Fox Hunting** – Paul Nienaber, KN4BAR, stated the next fox hunt practice session will be in November. We will be postponing any WCF-wide fox hunting event until the COVID-19 pandemic is under control.
8. **Classes in 2020** – The Technician class wrapped up on September 6. There were eight people who signed up and five were active participants. Paul, KN4BAR, and his cohort of instructors will be offering a General class starting September 20.
9. **VE Testing** – Steve, NS4P, mentioned that the next testing date will be September 12 with Paul's graduating Tech class getting seating priority since seats are limited during the pandemic.
10. **Zoom Subscription** – Since it appears that we will continue to embrace social distancing for a while, the Board of Directors is proposing for membership vote that we obtain a yearly Zoom subscription at a cost of \$150 for 12 months. We will use Zoom for club meetings, Board of Directors meetings, Tom's (W1ICU) virtual breakfasts, and Paul's (KN4BAR) license classes.

11. **Club Passwords** – The Board recommended that the secretary be the custodian for all passwords and trustee for the club call sign.
12. **Budget Reserves** – Tom Porada, W4IEE, presented to the Board a list of repeater equipment with associated expected life and replacement cost. With the amount of equipment the club now owns, we need to make sure there is an adequate amount of reserves in the budget. Tom, W4IEE, will head up a budget committee with the help of Paul, KN4BAR, and Frank, W2XYZ.
13. **Lifetime Membership** – The Board proposed for club membership vote to give Chet Fennell, KG4IYS, a Life Membership for all of the equipment he has donated to the club.
14. **Next BOD Meeting** - The next BOD meeting will be on October 10, 2020 at 1:00 PM. If a club member is interested in attending, please email secretary@tamiamiarc.org and Patti, N4IGI, will send you the meeting information.