

KCRA Newsletter

Keweenaw County Repeater Association

Vol. 30, No. 3

Fourth quarter 2020

Meeting minutes — Wednesday, October 14, 2020

Call to order at 7:07 p.m.

Roll call of officers, all present:

President/Treasurer Bill LaBell, KD8JAM

Vice President Don Lafreniere, W8PSP

Secretary Dave Gonigam, AG8NT

Also present:

George Thurner, W8FWG

Note: Because a quorum was not present under KCRA rules, no votes took place during this meeting — only discussion, detailed below.

Engineer's report:

All in good working order. Still no onsite visit this year. While the Keweenaw County Sheriff's office has the only key to the gate now, it might be possible to rendezvous with a deputy at a prearranged location to obtain the key, making a visit before the snow flies a bit easier.

Bill would like to put in a webcam to remotely monitor both the wattmeter and voltage meters. Also potentially helpful — a link to look at the existing roof cam to keep tabs on the condition of the antennas.

Echolink is up and running, but the LattePanda put into service this year does lock up from time to time. Unsure if it's a hardware or software issue, but Bill can reboot it from anywhere, so few users of the node ever notice.

Treasurer's report:

End-of-quarter statement balance in the treasury is \$4,278.13. As of the meeting date, \$4,253.13. That includes the PayPal balance.

The only expense during the third quarter was \$20 for the State of Michigan's business registration fee. The only incoming funds were an \$18 dues payment.

Secretary's report:

See minutes from the third-quarter newsletter.

Old business:

Autopatch test: George Thurner, W8FWG, conducted a successful autopatch test on or about Saturday, October 10.

At present, the name of Howard Klann remains on the club's account at Superior National Bank, although Howard, KD8ABP, became a SK in 2018. The bank says it still

needs official word in the club's records that Howard is deceased. It is noted in the minutes of the April 10, 2019 KCRA meeting. Dave will forward a copy of the minutes to Bill and Don to help complete the process of removing Howard's name from the account.

Thanks as always to pasty.net for covering the club's telephone and electric costs.

New business:

The 6m repeater at Don's QTH remains out of service; Jeff Stricker, W9GY, might have the most expertise to address the issue.

Otherwise, discussion centered on a post-pandemic plan to both bring more locals into the hobby and keep them engaged once they're licensed. In an ideal world, we'd redo the Technician classes that were interrupted in March, but nonetheless resulted in 15 new licensees. Meanwhile, a hands-on workshop could walk new licensees through basics like programming a HT; the perfect time to do so would be the Saturday morning of Field Day weekend.

Adjournment:

With no quorum present for a formal motion to adjourn, the meeting broke up sometime after 8:00 p.m.

Next meeting:

Wednesday, January 13, 2021