

KCRA Newsletter

Keweenaw County Repeater Association

Vol. 32, No. 3

Fourth quarter 2022

In memory of Gary Hansen, K8YSZ

Meeting minutes — Wednesday, October 12, 2022

Call to order at 7:08 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; Danny Miller, KB8W; Jeff Stricker, W9GY; Karen LaBell, KE8TXB; Antonia Burich, KE8SMB; Simon Lafreniere, KE8TXD.

Engineer's report

Apart from the power amplifier, everything is in working order. Fringe coverage on the .315 is less than ideal south of Highway Location Road, especially for mobile stations. APRS coverage is sketchy south of Chassell.

Plans for a site visit on Saturday Oct. 8 to conduct battery checks, etc. fell through — couldn't connect with a Keweenaw County sheriff's deputy for access.

Treasurer's report

Balance in the treasury is \$4,138.68. No PayPal transactions this past quarter. One deposit: \$20 dues and donation. Expenses: \$300 for new batteries, \$58.32 for pizza during International Lighthouse Lightship Weekend in August, plus \$16.78 for cutlery.

Technical/advisory committee report

In light of the aforementioned VHF coverage issues, and output now measured at 60 watts, discussion begins about whether to switch out the aging Motorola MSR 2000 repeater with the club's available Yaesu DR-2X.

Tradeoffs would include disabling the UHF repeater (440 would be needed for remote control) and an end to autopatch capability. The switch would have to be made the weekend of Oct. 15 to ensure ample time for any needed adjustments before the snow flies.

Jeff moves to make the switch, Don seconds, and the motion carries by acclamation.

Secretary's report

A quorum was not present for the July meeting.

Old business

Autopatch test: Still out of order, troubleshooting in progress — but will be a moot point with the new repeater.

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

New business

Library: Mary Ellen Crider, the widow of Cecil Crider, W8ED, offered four books to the club — which George suggests could form the foundation of a KCRA library. He'll keep them shelved at his home; the titles will be listed on the KCRA website along with George's contact information for anyone who would like to check them out.

Adjournment

Antonia moves to adjourn, Simon seconds. The meeting adjourns at 8:08 p.m.

Next meeting

Wednesday January 11, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. at Bill's place — 59897 Apple St. in Allouez