



MATANUSKA AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION
MINUTES
General Membership Meeting
February 28, 2020
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Call to Order:

The MARA General Membership Meeting was called to order by President Tabitha Sherman at 7:03 p.m.

Members and guests introduced themselves. A quorum was established.
There were no new hams present.

Agenda Review / Additions:

The written agenda was accepted as presented.

Minutes: Pam Whitehead, KL3PAM

02-12-2020 Board meeting -- pending review/posting to website.

President Report: Tabitha Sherman/KL4FZ

- reported briefly reminding of the upcoming Tech Expo; contact Don/KL7JFT to volunteer;
- noted that she and Bridget are working on a "History of MARA" Program for a future meeting; requested the membership (in particular founding members or those who have been members for a long time) to submit stories, photos, videos, to be included.

Vice President Report: Bridgit Larson, KL4B

- Had nothing new to report.

Treasurer Report: John Carrington, KL1XM

- John was not present, there was no Treasurer's Report.

Betty Carrington/KL1XL:

- announced she was able to secure the Church of Christ (2061 N. Merciful Cir., Wasilla, across from Home Depot) for the MARA HamFest scheduled for May 9, 2020 -- thank you, Betty!
- briefly described the facility and the rules.

Website Facilitator: Don Bush, KL7JFT

- reported the MARA website is up to date.

VE Report: Ken Hudson, KL2HF

- reported five applicants for last testing; produced 1 Extra, 1 Tech, and 1 Tech/General.

ARES Report: Don Bush, KL7JFT

- described plans for MARA's participation in the Tech Expo, March 5, 2020, at the Menard Sports Center; will need 3 to 5 volunteers to work the event as well as setup day before and takedown;
- encouraged attendance at the next COMEX, March 21, at Bushmaster Ops.

Licensing Classes: John Mears, AL7LA

- announced the next Technician Class: Houston Fire Station, Houston, AK, scheduled for Saturday, April 4, 11, 18, 25, 2020. Expects 5 to 10 students.

Sunshine Committee: Tabitha Sherman, KL4FZ

- no activity.

Trailer Committee: Don Bush, KL7JFT

- reported the fuel tank is full and the trailer is good to go.

Upcoming Events:

1. 03/05/2020 Tech Expo, Menard Sports Center
2. 03/11/2020 MARA Board Meeting, Mat-Su Regional, 7 pm
3. 03/21/2020 Ides of March COMEX, Bushmaster Ops
4. 03/26/2020 MARA Luncheon, Denali Family Restaurant, 11:30 am
5. 03/27/2020 MARA General Meeting, GSLC, 7 pm
6. 03/28/2020 Valley Testing, Red Cross Office, 7 pm
7. 04/04/2020 Science Olympiad, Teeland Middle School, 6:30 am - 5:15 pm
8. 06/06/2020 "Dog Jog" along Trunk Road (Comm support)

New Business:

1. Science Olympiad Sign-up Sheet: Tabitha/KL4FZ

Tabitha reminded that Science Olympiad is scheduled for April 4, 2020 at Teeland Middle School and passed out a Sign-up Sheet among the membership soliciting volunteers, noting they are seeking volunteers to help judge.

"Dog Jog" on Trunk Road, June 6, 2020

Described the event, noting MARA has been asked to provide communication support at checkpoints along Trunk Road; encouraged volunteers - will need 8 to 10 people at checkpoints; the walk will begin at the Park-and-Ride Lot at the West end of Trunk Road and run to Bogard.

2. Family Dues Program: Tabitha/KL4FZ

Announced the Board at its last meeting voted to institute a Club Family Membership Rate: \$48/year for 2 or more family members.

3. HamFest Door Prizes: KL7JFT

Reminded that since we now have a date and location for the HamFest, it's not too early to start soliciting Door Prizes for the event.

Old Business:

1. Child Protection Policy:

Postponed to the next meeting.

2. Dues due:

Tabitha reminded members to pay their 2020 membership dues if haven't already.

Break/Door Prize Drawings:

Door prize drawings were conducted.

Program: DMR (DIGITAL MOBILE RADIO)

Takeshi Morgan/KL3IT and Don Bush/KL7JFT:

- presented the program instructing on how it works, demonstrating DMR Radios and an informative video was shown: "The Old Tech Guy/KB9RLW".

- TJ and Don responded to member questions and there was open discussion.
- DMR Repeaters: 1 in Anchorage and 1 at Wolf Lake (WL7DN).

The membership thanked TJ and Don and spoke in appreciation of the time and effort put into the program.

Adjournment:

There being nothing further, the meeting adjourned at 8: 45 p.m.

Next Board Meeting: March 11, 2020

Next General Meeting: March 27, 2020

Pamela J. Whitehead [Electronic signature]

Pam Whitehead/KL3PAM, Secretary

Matanuska Amateur Radio Association