



MATANUSKA AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION
MINUTES
General Zoom Meeting
February 26, 2021

Call to Order/New Hams/Roll Call/Quorum Established:

The MARA General Membership Meeting was called to order by President Tabitha Sherman at 7:00 p.m.

Members/guests/new hams in attendance introduced themselves and provided call signs:

New Hams: Leah Carling/KL5EG

Tabitha Sherman/KL4FZ	Chris Hamman/KL5BF	Pam Whitehead/KL3PAM	John Carrington/KL1XM
Don Bush/KL7JFT	Ken Hudson/KL2HF	Bridgit Larson/KL4B	Takeshi Morgan/KL3IT
George Strother/KL7GS	Mike Gibson/KL5AX	Steve Geddes/KL5AH	Josef Princiotta/KL4VB
Dan O'Barr/KL7DR	Matt Miller/KL4JB	Craig Bledsoe/KL7H	Mimi Corneliussen/KL4UK
Braden Tinker/KL4YP	Tyson Wetzel/KL2WX	Mark Olson/KL3MRO	Adam Corneliussen/KL4UJ

Approval of Agenda/Additions:

Following review (via screen share):

MOVED George/KL7GS, **SECONDED** Takeshi/KL3IT, to accept the Agenda as presented.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Approval of Meeting Minutes: Pam Whitehead, KL3PAM

The Minutes of the **January 26, 2021 General Meeting** were presented for approval and posting to the MARA website.

MOVED TJ/KL3IT, **SECONDED** George/KL7GS, to approve the minutes as amended to reflect the correct spelling of the word nozzle (not nossle) under Door Prize Drawings.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

President Report: Tabitha Sherman/KL4FZ

- Noted that she is hopeful we will be able to hold more of our usual Club events as we get closer to the warmer months, emphasizing the opportunities for participation and learning by our new hams;
- Reminded members to pay their dues if they haven't yet done so.

Vice President Report: Chris Hamman/KL5BF

- Reported on last month's first Winter Field Day, everything went pretty well, lots of people came and it was an enjoyable time had by all; noted most of the event was good training for new hams; thanked those who participated in helping to set up the equipment to have the stations ready. Hopefully, we can look forward to more events coming up this spring and summer.

Treasurer Report: John Carrington, KL1XM

- Provided an update to Club finances:
- General account: \$3,705.87
- \$ 45.75 Amazon quarterly dividend
- \$ 32.90 Fred Meyer/Kroger quarterly dividend
- \$120.00 Anonymous donation through Facebook/Network for Good
- Book account: \$1,002.00
- Reported John Mears is in the process of ordering books (on backorder).

Secretary's Report: Pam Whitehead, KL3PAM

- No report.

Website Facilitator: Don Bush, KI7JFT

- Reported the website is up to date; minutes are pending.
- Latest Covid information is posted;
- Also posted: Upcoming Statewide COMEX which will be March 13, 2021 -- A Virtual Dog Race.

ARES Report and Trailer Committee: Don Bush, KL7JFT

- Just checked on the trailers today; good to go; go-kits are ready; need to do some computer upgrades in the VHF go-kits.
- Reported a Donation system is set up on the Facebook page for a new DMR repeater -- plans are to build it on the tower to be installed at TJ's in the spring. TJ expects to put a link from Wasilla to the new repeater for a more central location for the 146.85 repeater. He is also working on the new Valley packet system.
- TJ/KL3IT provided an update; reported the antenna is up and he expects to hook up one of the repeaters this weekend and do some testing.

VE Report: Ken Hudson, KL2HF

- Reported seven new Technicians and one new Tech/General from last month's testing;
- Has had a number of inquiries for tomorrow's testing; expects one of last month's tech plans to test for General tomorrow.

Licensing Classes: John Mears, AL7LA

- No report.

Sunshine Committee: Tabitha Sherman, KL4FZ

- No activity this month.

Upcoming Events:

1. 02/27/2021 - Licensing Exams, Am-Vets Building, 7:00 pm
2. 03/10/2021 - MARA Board Meeting, via Zoom, 7:00 pm
3. 03/20/2021 - Virtual Breakfast Meeting, via Zoom, 9-10 am
4. 03/26/2021 - MARA General Meeting, via Zoom, 7:00 pm
5. 03/27/2021 - Licensing Exams, Am-Vets Building, 7:00 pm

Discussion ensued regarding:

6. 07/17/2021 - MARA Picnic, venue reserved, thank you John/KL1XM and Betty/KL1XL.
7. 06/26-27/21 - Motley Picnic - Last weekend of June --Tolsana Wilderness Campground, near Glenallen, reserved.

New Business: None.

Ongoing Business:

1. Elmer Award presented by John Carrington, KL1XM
- Reported that this is the first Elmer Award for the Club --
- awarded to **Don Bush/KL7JFT**, a Certificate of Recognition for providing unselfish and beneficial assistance to novice radio operators for carrying on the time-honored tradition in amateur radio of sharing knowledge and providing guidance in support.

- Don spoke in appreciation and thanked everyone for the award.

Door Prize Drawings: Pick up at Don's/KL7JFT:

KI7VB - Magnets
KI4UK - Plug
KL5BF - Clock
KL4JB - Flag
KL1XL - Tape

Program: Ham Shack Show-n-Tell" with George Strother/KL7GS:

George/KI7GS presented his Ham Shack showing photos and describing its content.

The program was well received. Thank you George for your expertise and education.

Announcements/Good of the Order:

- Chris inquired if there was anyone else who might want to Show-n-Tell their ham shacks. Craig/KL7H and Don/KL7JFT offered to do so for a future program.
- John/KL1XM instructed on the different ways members can pay Club dues -- mail check to the Club PO Box or through the MARA website by clicking on the Donation button. Discussion followed on the different ways members can donate to the Club -- Amazon Smile, Kroger/Fred Meyer, Facebook.
- Pam/KL3PAM spoke in appreciation for MARA and thanked everyone for the honor of Ham of the Year!

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

Pamela J. Whitehead [Electronic signature]
Pam Whitehead/KL3PAM, Secretary
Matanuska Amateur Radio Association