



MATANUSKA AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION
MINUTES
General General Zoom Meeting
April 30, 2021

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

The MARA General Membership Meeting was called to order by Vice President Chris Hamman at 7:00 p.m.

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

Chris Hamman/KL5BF	Don Bush/KL7JFT	Mike Gibson/KL5AX	John Carrington/KL1XM
Pam Whitehead/KL3PAM	Rick Dwight/KL7CW	Dan O'Barr/KL7DR	Betty Carrington/KL1XL
H Whitehead/KL3RVW	Randy Hillman/KL5FQ	Ken Hudson/KL2HF	Brian Emerson/KL4A
Mike Grundberg/KL5FR	John Orella/KI7LL	Brandon Clark/KL7BSC	Jim Larson/AL7FS
Ken Slauson/KL7VE	David Stevens/KL7EB	Mark Olson/KL3MRO	Arthur Peterson/KL7FXJ
Craig Bledsoe/KL7H			

Approval of Agenda/Additions:

The written agenda was accepted as presented. There were no objections.

Approval of Meeting Minutes: Pam Whitehead, KL3PAM

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

MOVED Strother/KL7GS , **SECONDED** Carrington/KL1XM , to approve the **February 26, 2021** minutes as presented.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

MOVED Strother/KL7GS, **SECONDED** Bush/KL7JFT, to approve the **March 26, 2021** minutes as presented.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

President Report: Chris/KL5BF for Tabitha/KL4FZ:

- Reported on the possibility of returning to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church for general meetings; currently the church is opening only to member groups, but will consider opening to outside groups such as MARA in August.

Vice President Report: Chris Hamman/KL5BF

- Had nothing new to report.

Treasurer Report: John Carrington, KL1XM

- Provided an updated report of Club finances:
- General account: \$5,377.41; includes \$2,300.00 donation from Facebook Network for Good, designated for the new repeater; also \$75.00 in membership dues;
- Book account: \$1,028.42.
- Randy Hillman/KL5FQ inquired best way to make donations for the new repeater; discussion followed -- fastest way: send check payable to MARA to Club PO Box designating repeater, also donate by

credit/debit card through Club website.

Secretary's Report:

- Nothing new to report.

Website Facilitator / ARES Report / Trailer Committee: Don Bush, KL7JFT

- Reported website is up to date, announcements are current;
- Swap & Shop updated;
- Added additional items to the training section to include tech, general, and extra videos that follow the Gordon West program along with training videos on different aspects of to ham radio;
- Elmers page is updated;
- See ARES website KL7JFT.org for sections on building antennas and radio go boxes;
- Invited suggestions and comments on the website; contact him to submit articles;

ARES Report: Don Bush, KL7JFT

- Next COMEX probably in mid-June.

Trailer Committee: Don Bush, KL7JFT

- Need to get going on Trailer maintenance to get them ready for display at emergency fairs (Sutton, Menard Sports Center, Mat-Su College, Girl Scouts, Ladies in Science.
- Field Day -- spoke to the importance of training before working in the trailer; may need one or more additional drivers certified to pull the trailers;

VE Report: Ken Hudson, KL2HF

- Reported 1 new Technician, 2 upgrades to General, and 2 upgraded to Extra from the last testing session;
- Made special mention of new VE's recently signing up -- Roger Duprey/KL4ZS, Michael Jonrowe/KL3M, and Pierre Loncle/AL7OC, bringing the total to 25 VE's, but only 10 are active. Explained if a VE hasn't participated in two years and wants to remain active, to please let him know to remain on the list as available.

Licensing Classes: John Mears, AL7LA

- No report.

Sunshine Committee: Tabitha Sherman, KL4FZ

- Nothing new.

Don/KL7JFT reported on the Memorial Service for Silent Key, Teddy Walden/KL7HY, held recently at Post 35 of the American Legion; it was a very enjoyable memorial followed by a potluck -- color guard, 21-gun salute, flag ceremony.

Upcoming Events:

1. 05/12/2021 - MARA Board Meeting via Zoom, 7 pm
2. 05/15/2021 - Virtual Breakfast Gathering via Zoom, 9-10 am
3. 05/22/2021 - Licensing Exams, AmVets Building, Wasilla, 7 pm
4. 05/28/2021 - MARA General Meeting via Zoom, 7 pm

Ongoing Business:

1. Hamfest-September, Does anyone know of a good venue?

John/KL1XM and Betty/KL1XL will contact the Church of soon to check availability.

2. Looking Ahead -- Field Day in June. Participants need to start training.

Don/KL7JFT explained what is involved in the training for Field Day. Discussion followed as to possible venues.

New Business:

1. Ken Slauson/KL7VE announced he will be selling his house this summer, noting he hosted the .85 repeater for a number of years in an outstanding radio location. Question: Should he take the 80-ft tower down with other radio equipment or leave it up? He will either be looking for help to dismantle the tower or is curious to see if there may be anyone interested in purchasing a house with in an excellent radio location that comes complete with a tower? He is letting the Club know first before he lists it. Discussion followed with ideas on how to advertise it.

2. Brandon Clark/KL7BSC announced holding a workshop tomorrow at Finger Lake State Recreation area on portable operating out in the field. No powerpoint, all hands on with the equipment. See website: KL7VHF.org for more information. Hope to see you there.

Break/Door Prize Drawings: None.

Program: MORSE CODE RENAISSANCE (19 minute video by KE0OG)

A video was played: Dave Casler/KE0OG, Episode 13 of "Ask-Dave" -- An Introduction to the Magical World of CW, use of Morse Code.

Announcements/Good of the Order: None.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned without objection at 8:10 p.m.

Pamela J. Whitehead [Electronic signature]

Pam Whitehead/KL3PAM, Secretary
Matanuska Amateur Radio Association