



Matanuska Amateur Radio Association

General Meeting

Valley Church of Christ/ZOOM

March 29, 2024

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by President, Scott McCormick, KL7SLM.

Quorum Established. All those present introduced themselves by name and call sign. Attendees signed in at the door as they arrived. There are 80 members in good standing, and 25 people in attendance both in person and on zoom, the required 10% of paid members to establish a quorum was met.

Approval of Agenda as a guide with flexibility to accept any additions – motioned by John Carrington, KL1XM, and seconded by Mark Olson, KL3MRO, attendees voted in favor, the motion passed.

Approval of Meeting Minutes of February 2024 – motioned by George Strother, KL7GS, and seconded by JD Weeks, KL7JKR, attendees voted in favor, so the motion passed).

President's Report: Scott McCormick, KL7SLM – moving forward, wanting to improve the direction of the club and add community outreach, and more member activity. Will be working on the strategic planning and coming up with a mission statement and a club vision to direct the club activities.

Vice-President's Report: Ken Hudson, KL2HF – nothing new for the club but wanted to report about the CERT teams in the Valley: Willow CERT team is busy and helping them get more licensed hams and the Palmer/Wasilla team isn't busy at this time.

Treasurer's Report: John Carrington, KL1XM – members should try to access Fred Meyers awards, get on the app and add the MARA club as your benefactor
Book Account: \$764.44 General Account: \$9,079.99

Secretary's Report: Shelia Olson, KL3SRO – MARA Voice has been delayed due to request for additional time to get me items.

Sunshine Committee: Shelia Olson, KL3SRO – was provided info about one club member, will send out card soon

Events planner: Shelia Olson, KL3SRO – upcoming events that will be discussed later are Nerd Con, Annual Picnic/Field Day, Ham Fest to name a few.

VE Report: Ken Hudson, KL2HF – Saturday's testing was very productive with 4 who passed their tests, 3 technicians and 2 of those are here tonight, and one upgrade to general.

Licensing Classes – none scheduled at this time

Website Facilitator: Don Bush, KL7JFT – everything is up to speed and also facebook to include Nerd Con.

ARES Report: Don Bush, KL7JFT – just received email from Willow requesting the MARA Club attend their Emergency Fair on May 18

Trailer Committee: Scott McCormick, KL7SLM – circuit breaker inside the MATCOM station keeps tripping and the trailer batteries then are staying charged so the generator has to be run awhile to charge them back up. Reached out to Casey Cook and left a message.

Ongoing Business

1. **Update on repeaters, *POC: Don KL7JFT*** - waiting on word on 33, TJ hasn't met and Don can't connect, will wait until Spring to do needed maintenance to put in the last 2 tower sections
2. **Palmer Junior Middle School, *POC: Scott KL7SLM*** - William Crume, KL5LD stated there are 19 kids registered, going through the technician book, 1 student is ready to test, 2 others are almost ready, all the equipment is in and waiting for snow to be totally melted before installation, goal is to have at least 2 kids licensed by summer, Bridgecom is talking about sponsoring the club and providing free items to the kids and wrote a note to the kids
3. **Field Day, *POC: Ken KL2HF and Shelia KL3SRO* June 22-23** – the Menard Center was chosen by the Board of Directors given there is ample available parking for trailers, easy access to public attendees, pavilion, playground, close to town, etc, Still waiting to talk with Tammy at their office to discuss our club fee and the hours.
4. **Palmer High School Nerd Con *POC: Scott KL7SLM*** – the event is being held on 4/6, 10am-6pm, set up starts at 9, will request 6 badges for club members to wear during their time at the table, looking for folks to help with set up and tear down

New Business

1. **Summer Picnic, *POC: Shelia KL3SRO*** – the Board decided that the summer picnic will be in conjunction with Field Day be at the Menard Center
2. **Ham Fest, *POC: Ken KL2HF and Shelia KL3SRO*** – the event will be held September 7 at Big Lake Lions Rec Center
3. **License Class Chair, *POSITION OPEN*** – there is a need for someone chair the licensing classes, schedule them and provide the technician or general level information to help attendees pass the licensing exam.

Upcoming Events:

1. **MARA Board Meeting**, April 10, WASI 1900
2. **MARA Luncheon**, April 25, Denali Family Restaurant, 1130
3. **MARA General Meeting**, April 26, Valley Church of Christ, 1900
4. **Licensing Exams, *POC: Ken KL2HF*** April 27, WASI, 1900

Intermission–15 minutes

- Presentation, **Ken KL2HF* or Brandon KL7BSC* – video from www.oh8stn.org of being off the grid and had good points of operating whether it is an emergency situation or just reaching out
- Drawing for door prize
- Announcements/Good of the Order/Adjournment

Motion for Adjournment – Motioned by John Carrington, KL1XM, and seconded by JD Weeks, KL7JKR, and voted unanimously in favor.

Respectfully submitted,



Scott McCormick, KL7SLM
President
MARA Board of Directors



Shelia Olson, KL3SRO
Secretary
MARA Board of Directors