

MARPLE-NEWTOWN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

MEETING MINUTES

5 MAY 2022

BOARD: President: Jim Goldman, W3JG

Vice President: Dick Kline, W3UP

Treasurer: Mike Lebrun, N30MR

Secretary: Kevin DePaul, N4SEN

CALL TO ORDER:

President Jim Goldman opened the meeting at 1900 hours local, and invited all those in attendance to identify themselves by name and call sign. Jim then noted a book entitled "Amateur Radio for the Antisocial", which describes ham radio. He also mentioned the Zoom meeting of 4 May 2022, which concerned the "Grant Program" presented by ARRL that offers up to \$2,000 in grant money for ham radio clubs that wish to enhance their ham radio club education programs. For more information on this program, please refer to the ARRL Grant Program on their website.

Neil Blaho noted that ham radio classes were underway at the Middletown Fire Company, and that they still needed Volunteer Examiners (VE's) to help conduct the testing upon completion

of the classes. Testing will take place on 18 May, and that those VE's interested in assisting with the exams should try to attend a VE session to familiarize themselves with how to prepare and submit the testing materials to the ARRL.

Neil also discussed the upcoming Field Day preparations, and noted that we have a power generator, a logging software system, cables, and antennas, but we still need a person to handle food for the event on 25/26 June. Participants should contact Neil to let him know what equipment they will be bringing so that we have an idea of how many stations will be operating. The event is not just for ham radio operators; the public is welcome to attend.

TREASURER: Mike, N3OMR stated that the club has not done much to modernize the club lately, and said that the club had recently purchased a new projector and screen, and now had a balance of approximately \$10,000 in the club account. Further purchases include five RG-213 cables with connectors, and a new equipment trunk. He also noted that we now have a total of 141 members in the club.

VICE PRESIDENT: Dick Kline, W3UP, gave an update on the morning Weather and Information Net, and noted that with the temporary absence of Cliff, KC3PGT, we would need an additional net control operator in his stead. A copy of the net

control script is available on the MNARC website for those interested in being a net control operator.

SECRETARY: Kevin DePaul, N4SEN, read the minutes from the April club meeting.

The June meeting will take place on Thursday, 2 June 2022 at the Field Day site, Drexel Lodge Park, on West Chester Pike, in Newtown Square, beginning at 1900 hours. Neil Blaho will discuss preparations for the Field Day activities.

PRESENTERS: Feliks Bortkiewicz, W3FJB, provided a very interesting presentation on Satellite Communications and how ham radio operators can communicate with the International Space Station astronauts while the satellites are over a given area of the globe. Feliks noted that they have “ARISS” (Amateur Radio International Space Station) on board the ISS, and that information is readily available on how to set up a station, what equipment is needed, and how to make contact. Since acquisition time is limited to no more than 12 minutes, Feliks noted several do’s and don’t’s while attempting to make contact, mainly to Keep It Short and to not “gab”. There are many other stations trying to make contact also.

Dick Kline, W3UP, gave a demonstration on the latest Raspberry Pie 400 mini-computer system which included a power supply, wall wart, monitor, mouse, and instruction book, all available for \$70.00 at present. The system uses Bluetooth and WiFi.

Fred, N3OFR, won the 50/50!

Jim Goldman, W3JG, adjourned the meeting at 2045 hours local.

The following people were in attendance:

1. JIM GOLDMAN, W3JG
2. MIKE LEBRUN, N3OMR
3. KEVIN DEPAUL, N4SEN
4. KENT SIMMONS, N3BKR
5. MIKE KOREJWO, KBEHMR
6. DICK KLINE, W3UP
7. FELIKS BORTKIEWICZ, W3FJB
8. RICH ROTH, AA3RC
9. GARY BODNAR, K3GZ
10. JOHN DYCKMAN, WA3KFT
11. RICH RUSSO, KB3VZL
12. NEIL BLAHO, AA3EO
13. CHRIS WROBLEWSKI, KC3CIW
14. JOHN CUNNION, WB3JAC
15. FRED FIELD, N3OFR

16. PAUL KEANER, KT3H
17. KELLY EGAN, KC3RAE
18. ED SWEENEY, AC3IK
19. FRED SCHRAMM, K2HA
20. PHIL SMIMBA, N3ZP
21. JIM KRAVITZ, K3JFK
22. ERIN FARMER, KM4WSK
23. MARK FARMER, NI20
24. MIKE MCCOLLIGAN (NO C/S)
25. ED FLECK, AA3WT
26. JAY HETTLER, N3RT