

Middle Peninsula Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
General Meeting Net Summary
June 2, 2020

Note:

Due to Governor Northam's order prohibiting gathering in groups due to the ongoing Coronavirus Pandemic, the monthly general meeting of the club was cancelled. In its place, an over-the-air net was conducted at the usual time to maintain contact between club members and to continue ongoing discussion of club matters. The net followed the same general form as a meeting, but since our bylaws currently have no provision allowing electronic meetings, and such meetings are not allowed implicitly by the current version of Robert's Rules of Order, no motions could be made and no votes conducted, so no minutes were kept. Instead, this summary of the night's activity is being submitted in lieu of minutes.

Initial Call for Check-ins

The net was called at 7:00 pm on June 2nd, 2020 by MPARC President Kenny Skirvin (KM4KZC), an initial call for check-ins to the net heard responses from

- Jerry, K4SKD
- Will, K4MI
- Dave, KK4CNF
- Dave, KN0S
- Bobby, K4BC
- Mack, WB2PCV
- Marty, WM4MW
- Mark, N1LO
- Will, WS3G
- Roger, KI4QAU

Agenda:

- Previous meeting minutes
- Treasurer's report
- W5YI testing
- Old business
- New business
- Any other business? Discussion? Remarks and Comments.

Previous Meeting Minutes

The minutes/summary were distributed electronically as usual. Kenny asked for any comments and there were no changes or additions to the minutes.

Treasurer's Report

Kenny asked the Treasurer (Will, K4MI) for a summary of the situation and any remarks. Kenny indicated that the Treasurer's Report was distributed only to the Board beforehand, following the historical precedent established by Rob Neece in previous years, but the report is available to any member upon request. He summarized that this month there was a small amount of income from collected dues, and we paid our insurance bill. Will indicated that there hadn't been much else, but reminded that we will suffer a deficit due to the absence of the revenue normally generated from our support for the annual Tour de Chesapeake which has been cancelled.

W5YI Testing

Kenny relayed Joy's W5YI report, indicating that she had large groups signed up for testing on 6/6 and 6/13. Individuals attending are required to wear masks in compliance with the requirements of the Rescue Squadron. Also, attendees arriving to test should put a sign in their car window saying as much so they can be identified. People will be called in order, limited by the space available and the requirements for social distancing. Once they finish, they will return to their cars to await the results. Kenny applauded Joy's continued outstanding effort to manage W5YI testing, even under adverse circumstances like we have currently, adding that he appreciates the extra effort required.

Will (K4MI) added that the Williamsburg club will also be offering testing on 6/20 in Toano. Visit <http://k4rc.net> for more information. Interested individuals will need to contact the club beforehand.

ARES

Kenny asked Roger (KI4QAU) for an update on ARES. Roger said that the local and District ARES coordinators had participated in a Red Cross exercise last Saturday using Winlink, testing readiness in the current pandemic situation. Still awaiting the final report, but many participants who seemed well prepared and the event seems to have gone very well.

Roger added that he hopes to put together a Zoom meeting of the local ARES team in the coming weeks. Otherwise, it has been quiet.

Kenny paused to make a station identification and to make another call for check-ins... and added

- John, AI4QQ
- Scott, K7TTN
- Danny, KW4LQ

Old Business

By-laws change vote:

Still postponed until our next in-person meeting.

Program Chair

Still seeking a volunteer to serve as program chair.

Repeater Amp

The failed repeater is still awaiting repair. Still plan to self-repair (replace capacitor).

Kenny asked for any additional old business or remarks... None were heard

New Business

ARRL Field Day, June 27th and 28th –

Kenny believes we have enough interest to have a small club event. Since Abingdon Park has cancelled reservations, we would consider holding it in an alternate location – Maybe William's Wharf, though it closes for the night. Kenny asked for other ideas/contributions...

Bobby (K4BC) suggested that if William's Wharf closes at 6:00 PM, we might be better off to hold it at his place, indicating that he normally has excellent reception on 20m and 80m. Kenny thanked Bobby for his offer.

Will (WS3G) – Understands that the ARRL has eased requirements, allowing home operations, giving credit to the club for member's home-based activities. Also, that the eased requirements allow for credit for stations operating on commercial power (for both ends of the connection). He indicated that operating from home in this fashion would still be an option, even if we hold a minimal club event at Bobby's QTH.

Kenny added that a single club event would be allowed, and there seem to be no objections to moving forward with such a plan – in addition to whatever home-based operations members may be planning.

Cancellations

Due to the social distancing order which extends until June 12th, several club activities are cancelled, postponed or rescheduled.

- **June 13th Club Breakfast:** Cancelled

July Meeting, July 7, 2020

Kenny hopes that we might be able to hold an in-person meeting at the rescue squadron location as usual, possibly also simulcasting the meeting on Zoom.

Jerry (K4SKD) suggested meeting in the parking lot, allowing compliance with social distancing.

Roger (KI4QAU) concurred, indicating that meeting in the parking lot seems like a good idea.

Dave (KK4CNF) – Committee at the Methodist Church has been successfully meeting in the parking lot, the only possible complication is if it happens to rain.

Pause for Station Identification and call for additional Check-ins.

No additional check-ins were heard.

Next Board Meeting, July 29th –

Any objections to holding the board meeting as scheduled? None were offered.

Suggestions/Comments --

- Will (K4MI) suggested that we need to confirm availability of a venue given the number of closures
- Bobby (K4BC) –
- Jerry (K4SKD) – parking lots an option
- Roger (K14QAU) – Offers his home QTH as a location
- Will WS3G) – Many restaurants are now offering outdoor seating.

Any additional New Business?

Kenny asked for any additional new business from participants... Nobody had anything to add.

Will (K4MI) -- Walter Reed Event

Suggested that if the venue is not available, we could do a distributed operation like Williamsburg has done recently, with operators working from home on a rotating schedule.

Remarks from people who checked in –

Kenny offered each person who had checked in an opportunity to contribute to the net. Everyone related stories and comments regarding the pandemic, or anything else they wanted to say. Folks are working on lots of projects, some related to amateur radio and some not.

Dave, KK4CNF relayed a check-in from Scott, KO4BJW who apparently had been trying to check-in but was unable to make the repeater.

Adjournment

Kenny (KM4KZC) adjourned the meeting about 8:00 PM.

Participants

Members

- Kenny, KM4KZC (President/Net Control)
- Jerry, K4SKD
- Will, K4MI
- Dave, KK4CNF
- Dave, KN0S
- Bobby, K4BC
- Mack, WB2PCV
- Marty, WM4MW

- Mark, N1LO
- Will, WS3G
- Roger, KI4QAU
- John, AI4QQ
- Scott, K7TTN

Guests

- Scott, KO4BJW

Submitted by MPARC Secretary, Marty Wise, WM4MW, July 6th, 2020