

HCRA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

February 18, 2025

Meeting Began: 7:00 pm via Zoom

Attendees:

President -W1AEZ Ez Treasures – N1FJ Frandy
Program Dir. – AA1UE Gary Membership – KB1VHN Al
At Large – N1CB Johnathen Newsletter/Web – AB1XW Alan

Unable to Attend:

Vice President – KP4JLD Josue
Tech Dir. – K1YO Bob
Secretary – Vacant

President's Report: Ez, W1AEZ

-Discussion after rollcall to review the agenda tonight, everyone acknowledged getting a copy.

-Renewal of the yearly ARRL Club Liability Policy 31 March 2026 to 31 March 2027 and a copy sent to the Treasurer with a copy of the billed paid. A copy is in the HCRA Share Drive and encouraged all BOD members to review the costs for liabilities coverage.

-Renewal of the ARRL contest club eligibility listing which should be done yearly but recommend doing it every six months and/or as needed.

Discuss ARRL personal using the HCRA Group ISO email to communicate to the BOD instead of club or president email.

-Discussed Silent Keys and reengaging the recognition of why members are not seen at meeting or heard on the air. Providing respectful recognition by illustrating it on the Newsletter/Web. Review the membership list with comparison with FCC notices of SK. Three members were identified: Vic Caputo -KC1VIC; Robert Haskin – W1PHS; & Gregory Stoddard- N1AEH that recently became Silent Keys.

-Discussed that BOD members "Things I do" repository is in the HCRA Share Drive Number 10.

-Discussed looking for a secretary and reviewed their role by HCRA bylaws verses MTARA of not able to have dual role with other clubs.

-Discussed the HCRA 10-meter nets by Gary W1JZR & Ken KD1KU, QSL cards quarterly by Paul NF1G.

-Discussed WMET Jim KK1W requests for HCRA radio operator manuals for the VET candidates. The manual needs a review and update. Jonathen N1CB volunteered to print them for this month.

Vice President's Report: Josue, KP4JLD

-No report provided.

Secretary's Report: Vacant – filled in by Brother Al KB1VHN

-Discussed about being behind the minutes and have most typed, have been ill and working on a few more things.

Treasurer's Report: Frandy, N1FJ

-Discussed that he would love to get out of the treasurer position and will not be here by June 1st. Discuss looking at finding a replacement as soon as possible.

-Reviewed the total club account on February 6th we had \$6,209.48 with not much happened since.

-Discussed the total of Holiday party with gifts, a little over \$4,000.00. The admissions and staff came to about 60 people times \$35 .00 should be about \$1800.00 but I show \$1,500.00. Holiday party was expensive and cost more than expected but members were very happy we had it.

-Reviewed MTARA (Brother Al) had only four people at the Holiday Party that were not dual membership with HCRA. Discussed a different division of finances for future joint parties.

-Review Mailbox due date in April 2026 and go to Agawam Post Office for a in-person renewal.

Program Director's Report: Gary, AA1UE

-Discussed upcoming programs, March is Ken W1BDX noted in Newsletter. In April, we will have a Show and Tell session. In May, please bring your portable equipment for demonstration. In June there will be election as well as a gentleman met at New England Weak Signal Group express doing a presentation. June is busy for the club with Elections and Field Day.

-Recommends that Field Day be started but be handled outside the club meeting by a committee to save time. Josue KP4JLD has done the Field Day to start a working group to make sure we get the kind of commitment in the time frame to prevent people not showing up at the beginning or not at all.

-Discussed the role of the Program Director and comprehensive overview submitted in the HCRA Share drive.

-Discussed having club activities to bring people together on a person-to-person basis for a stronger club.

-Discussed a poll of club project activities that members might be interested in doing or is it too much for the club. Good idea, e.g., Raspberry Pi, Digipeater, Linux, a couple of different things if there is an interest. Reach out to KC1IZC if willing to do a Share-the-Knowledge session about Digipeater project.

-Requests that all presenters are provided with a reward and/or embossed certification. Less than a half dozen tumblers are available.

-Discussed the Facebook outline on BOD administration to avoid member that are upset or disagree with HCRA BOD policies. All BOD members have Admin rights. Members can bring their concerns to the BOD to review and make decision.

-Motion and vote in favor with Gary as Person of responsible for this FB committee to determine policy.

Membership Director's Report: Al, KB1VHN

-Discussed role of the membership Director paperwork submitted and membership committee based on the importance of getting together as a group and collectively sit down with a discussion.

-Discussed the membership applications process and members.

Technical Director Report: Bob, K1YO

-No report provided.

Newsletter/Web Director Report: Alan, AB1XW

-Discussed Zero Beats on track, thanks for president's column. Writing an additional short article about Ham Clock. Putting together with some work on layout.

-Deadline is Sunday.

At Large Director Report: Johnathen, N1CB

-Discussed role of the At Large Director and has nothing to report at this time. Reports are still new and learning his director's role. Is eager to take on the Field Day committee role.

-Recommend meeting up with Josue for book of notes and starting the field day getting things ready and start recruiting.

-Recommend a sign-up list to be passed around at the next club meeting to identify members interested in participating in the Summer Field Day.

-Discussion on the use of the HCRA email list to solicit members and non-members for field day since some will not be at the club meeting.

-Discussion of invitations to other radio clubs like Franklyn County Radio Association Club (Gary-President). Continue with friendly competition with Quaboag Valley Amateur Radio Club (QVARC) for the plaque.

-Request a few minutes at the next club meeting agenda to pitch Field Day.

New Business:

-Recommend to review and upgrade the HCRA bylaws for next fall and member's review/vote. Suggested that the VP and Secretary chair this meeting and renew it. This will require a new filing with the Secretary of State.

Old Business:

-Reach out to Merchandise to continue with local vendors for members to go directly to for purchase.

Next Club Meeting: March 6, 2026

Next Board Meeting: March 18, 2026.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:53 pm