

# Minutes for October 2017 Club Meeting

Lowell Amateur Radio Club Monthly Meeting – 10/19/17 Meeting Called to order: 7:05PM

Officers Present: 6

( x ) President & ( x ) Vice-President

( x ) Treasure, & ( x ) Secretary

( x ) Tech Advisors

( ) Web Master & ( x ) PIO

Number of Member present: 6 Number of Guests present: 0

Secretaries Report: ( x ) Read – ( ) Amended – ( x ) Approved

Treasures Report: ( x ) Read – ( ) Amended – ( x ) Approved

Vice President Report: We should think about participating in the MI SPOTA, it was thought that since Ionia Rec Area may only be activated in 2017, and it is close to Lowell/GR that we should try to activate that still this fall. Del will pick a date and we will send it out via e-mail and social media.

Technical Report: New voter was installed and programmed for courtesy tones, and we are looking at putting some analytics in place. The new radio interface was ordered for the new receive site.

Web Master Report: The web page has been up and some new versions of plug ins have been installed. The web master was asked to look at the need to log into QRZ when doing a call sign lookup from the web site

PIO Report: We have several HAM fest coming up this weekend, Muskegon on Saturday the 21<sup>st</sup> and Kalamazoo on Sunday the 22<sup>nd</sup>. The National 24 Hour Challenge bicycle ride that has been using our repeater on Fathers day weekend for the past several years has thanked us.

Old Business:

- Welcomed Tad, K8TCS to the board as our new Secretary, and congratulated him on passing his General exam.
- There was more discussion of the proposed tower usage agreements. We have 2 entities that would like to lease some space on the tower at FROM. Nathan has a generic tower usage agreement and is working who also rents tower space on how to set up the leases. There was a discussion about the average cost of tower rentals which is about \$1.00/vertical foot, this varies based on the size of the actual antenna. There was also discussion about the shed we would need to install at the base of the tower to handle equipment. This process is moving forward.

New Business:

- We are looking for remote rig equipment. This will be used when we move the radio room from its current location at FROM to the new room. This in addition to some new ethernet/CAT5 runs will allow us to use HF/VHF and UHF in the new room. After talks with FROM they would like us to move to the first room down the hall and around the corner, next to a bathroom.

- We again on the GR Gives site this year. GR Gives is a web site for local donations to be used on Giving Tuesday one of the strange post Thanksgiving day events; Black Friday, Small Business Saturday, Cyber Monday and Giving Tuesday. To give money to the club during giving Tuesday please use this link: <http://grgives.com/nonprofit/larc/> it appears that this link is active now, the web master will make the link available on our site as well.
- There are some new courtesy tones in use on the repeater, at the time of the meeting the voter broadcast the name of the repeater that was receiving the clearest audio. After a good deal of discussion it was decided to change the plain English tone to CW of the first 2 letter of the location of the repeater.
- There is currently a Fox box available somewhere in Kent County. If you broadcast DTMF tone1 on 145.33 you should activate some audio form the box if you are near it. Check out and report sightings and finds to the Michigan Fox Hunter Yahoo group.

Meeting adjourned 8:10pm: Minutes by treasurer K8TCS