

Minutes of February 20, 2022 meeting  
Pella Amateur Radio Club  
1:30 PM Liberty Evangelical Free Church

1. Present: WØRLJ – Richard, WBØYQP – Larry, WØOTV – Daniel with his daughter, Molly, WRØU – Scott, KØBLC – Bobby, KFØGWJ – Harry, KBØBGU – Kevin, KEØFKF – Justin, KB2FSK – Dan, WØIM – David and WØZMU – Roger.
2. Treasurer’s Report:
  - a. Income
    - i. January Interest \$0.03
    - ii. Memberships \$410.00
    - iii. Donations \$230.00
  - b. Expenses: \$25.00 to QSL.Net for Web page hosting
  - c. Balances
    - i. General Fund: \$1,601.52
    - ii. Repeater: \$378.82
    - iii. PENS: \$146.27
    - iv. Total of all balances: \$2,126.60
  - d. Total Current 2022 Members: 16 plus 2 family memberships. (Payment was received from some additional members after the meeting which were not included in this count.)
3. There are still some pending communications relating to the meeting of the Club’s Officers with law enforcement held in December. Justin will be taking care of those items as well as follow up on interest in taking licensing exams by some of the Scouts who did the Radio Merit Badge exercise.
4. A discussion was held regarding the 100 Km bicycle race organized by Iowa Bike and schedules for April 23. Mike and Daniel did a trial run of the route, reporting back to the club repeater, which was located at Roger’s house at the time. Coverage was quite good, with some gaps, especially in low spots along the route. The discussion was more related to the value the club could offer to the race, such as reporting on problems, accidents, counting riders as they passed, leading or trailing the riders, etc. Roger will contact the organizer and see how we can be of most help to them.
5. Out of this discussion came to need for identification for the amateurs involved in communications. Distinctive vests seemed to be the best way, not only for identification to participants, but they would also provide a measure of protection against accidents. Daniel had checked previously and gave a figure of \$350 to \$400 to purchase some 20 vests with the club identified on them. David H. had a vest with him, identified only as “Amateur Radio Communications” which may be less expensive. Further investigation is needed.

6. Roger reported that the repeater is at RACOM for a check on its operation, sensitivity, desensing, cavity tuning, etc. They will make repairs and adjustments as needed. Financing is available for this. Once this is done, it will go back to the site for normal operation. If the problems continue, a technician from a shop in Coralville is planning to look at the Newton repeater and has agreed to come down to Pella and do the same with the repeater fully installed at the site. If the problems are no longer present, we will not need his services.
7. A question was raised concerning the "loaner equipment" which have been installed at the home of Tammy, KAØTZN. Justin will check back with her to see if she is using it or would rather return it to the club.
8. As regarding Field Day
  - a. It was agreed that the Well is an excellent location, very available to the public.
  - b. It is not too early to address some of the issues which come up each year. Better antennas are call for, especially for 10/15/20 meters. Daniel is working towards building a 10-meter beam. Roger has parts from which a beam could probably be constructed. Scott said he has a Hy-Gain TH3 that was removed from service and could be made available, after he checks it out.
  - c. Times of operation were discussed. While working later into the evening would be helpful, it seems interest runs low by late afternoon. It was pointed out that interest is related to making contacts, and that if we had good antennas, we could keep the rate of contacts, and interest up as well.
  - d. Justin volunteered to coordinate the Field Day activity, including contacting local officials and media.
9. A suggestion was made to check out the various 5K walk/runs that have been done in the past, such as the Gene Van Wyk 5K, American Legion 5K Ruck Walk, Pathways of Pella 5K, Freedom House 5K and others.
10. We went around the group, sharing what we were all doing in the area of amateur radio activities.
11. Carrying out a VE exam session was suggested. Maybe we should schedule one or two yearly, which would also help validate the credentials of club members who have them.
12. As no further business was presented, the meeting was adjourned at about 3:30 PM on February 20, 2022

Roger Stubbe - Secretary