

Gold Coast Amateur Radio Association Meeting Minutes

I. Call to order (19:30hrs)

Melanie Fernandez (KJ4VCT) called to order the regular meeting of the Gold Coast Amateur Radio Association, Inc at 19:30 EDT (00:30UTC) on February 23, 2021 on ZOOM. A quorum was present with 22 members and 1 non-member.

II. Minutes from January 26, 2021

Charlie Artner (KN4VDW) made the motion to approve; second by Jeff Stahl (K4BH) Minutes have been approved without objection.

III. Treasurer's Report - Erik Olmer (W4EJO)

Erik submitted an amended report for January. A few items cleared in the bank after the last meeting and to keep the starting balance for Feb correct, he had to amend January. We received Club dues as well as some donations. Liability insurance was one of the items that were reported in January but cleared in February so that is one item that had to be amended. The month was started with \$6,314.19 and ended with \$5,901.98.

IV. Membership Chair – Joe McGee (NX4T)

25 single memberships; 4 Family memberships; 16-lifetime memberships; 45 memberships are fully paid for 2021.

V. VE Status – Jeff Stahl (K4BH)

No testing has been done. A few people have expressed that they would like to take the test.

VI. Repeater Report – Riche Eaton (KD4HGR)

Everything is up and running. Things are moving slowly.

VII. Web Site – John Cole (N1QFH)

John Cole (N1QFH) will hand off responsibility to Charlie Artner (KN4VDW).

VIII. Call for Old Business.

We still do not know when we are going to be able to meet at the hospital.

IX. Announcements

Carol Sjursen (KJ4AWB): ARES/RACES will start training on emergency communications. The meeting will be every third Tuesday of the month. The point of this training is to get operators ready for the event of a disaster. Whether you operate from home or a shelter, emergency communications are different from your everyday rag chews. The county expects ARES to staff all the Hurricane shelters. Currently, the shelters are short-staffed. We want to get as many people trained as possible, even if they are not ARES/RACES members so that in an emergency everybody is using the same protocols. Information on classes will be shared on the GCARA website when available. According to Part 97, this is one of licensed HAMs' responsibility to provide communication in the case of an emergency. ARRL does have emergency communications classes.

A SKYWARN class is coming up on March 20th and 27th, information will be posted on www.w4bug.org.

X. Speaker: Dave Warner (KB4IU)

How to use a NanoVNA when making an antenna.

XI. Adjournment

Melanie Fernandez (KJ4VCT) adjourned the meeting at 20:59 ET (01:59 UTC).