

NPARC BUSINESS MEETING #95

Monday, June 24, 2024

Time: 7:40- 9:00pm.

Location: NP Municipal Building, 3rd Floor Meeting Room, 360 Elkwood Ave.

Attendees: (13)

K2AL, W2EMC, W2EWQ, K2GLS, KC2HLA, KA2NYB, KD2ONY, KC2OSR, W2PTP, K2UI, KC2WUF, K2YG, KD2ZRO

1) ***K2UI started the meeting at 7:40pm.***

2) ***NPARC FIELD DAY 2024 REVIEW:***

- **PRELIMINARY SCORE RESULTS (Per KC2WUF):**

785 total contacts:

HF CW AND PHONE STATIONS- Breakdown by band:

64% on 40M

30% on 20 and 15M

6% on 80M (Not as much activity on 80 as expected)

VHF STATION:

6M Phone: 25 Contacts

6M CW: 1

6M FT8: 52

2M Phone: 1

- **BONUS POINTS (K2AL)**

1350 TOTAL POINTS via 13 of the 17 categories.

Highlights were a satellite contact through the cross band 2M/440 repeater on the International Space station by KB2FCV and message handling by K4DH.

See attached spreadsheet for all details.

- **41 ATTENDEES/VISITORS including the NJ Region Red Cross and Chatham FD, Norma Cohen, XYL K2JV (SK), and good to see Andy, N2FYE.**

- **STATION MANAGER REPORTS**

W2PTP- Phone Station

1. The G5RV antenna performed well

2. The Icom 756 Pro III performed well but was deemed a bit complicated and there were some difficulties when operators made undocumented setting changes.

3. KD2ITW had a great run on 40 on Sunday morning and K4DH and W2EMC operated into late night.

Bonus VHF Station - WB2QOQ (His input via email)

Per Rick, the number of contacts made was disappointing considering the big effort made in putting up the tower and yagis. A possible recommendation was to mount the antennas on a stepladder as in past years and forego the tower.

Some suggestions made at the meeting by other members:

1. Use simple vertical antennas for VHF instead of the tower

2. Share the VHF station with HF digital and go to a 3A category. Concerns are logistics and lack of enough operators to sustain 3 stations.

3. Simply repeat the same setup again next year and hope for better prop and activity. Final decision on status of VHF station next year to be made by WB2QOQ.

- **CW/DIGITAL STATION (KB2FCV Manager)**

1. Per K2YG, the CW speed, RF and audio gain controls on the 756 Pro II were difficult to adjust and the waterfall was not that helpful.
2. Per K2AL, 40 and 20 were the best bands but 80 was disappointing regarding overall activity.
3. KB2FCV recommends that the club invest in a dedicated power supply for the Pro II.

- **UPGRADING the CLUB RADIOS**

There was some discussion regarding selling the two Icom 756 Pros and replacing them with two new radios such as the Icom 7300 or Yaesu 710AESS. The EC will discuss.

- **FOOD AND WATER**

1. K2AL was concerned that no water was available until 11AM and water should be available at 9AM. It was discussed that members should bring their own water, but the amount required to stay hydrated may make that impractical.
2. Due to KD2JRI being unavailable due to illness, food plans were thrown into disarray. Alternate plans had to be made.

- **FD EXPENSES**

Give all receipts for FD expenses to Club Treasurer K2YG for reimbursement. Dave will reimburse any remaining expenses when he returns from vacation in August.

3) OTHER NEW BUSINESS

- **INCREASING MEMBER INVOLVEMENT**

KC2OSR suggested we try to contact non-active members for health and welfare checks and to stimulate interest in the Club.

K2UI suggested using a text app to contact members for meeting reminders/invites.

- **ARES/RACES**

KD2ONY is advancing ARES/RACES involvement in community events and marathons and will be asking for volunteers to assist in communications in those events.

- **Bell Labs Museum Tour**

KC2OSR needs to know how many members will attend.

- **Future Meeting Presentations/Events (KC2OSR)**

***Summer Meetings at 3rd Floor Meeting Room, NP Municipal Bldg., 360 Elkwood Ave., New Providence.**

(Application for use of Salt Brook School cafeteria for Club meetings for the 2024-2025 school year and for the NPARC Auction on 2/22/25 has been submitted by K2AL and is awaiting approval)

1. ***July 8 – Cricket QRP Kit project (tentative)**
2. ***July 22 Raspberry Pi Tutorial – KD2ZRO**
3. ***August 12 -Intro to Contesting: K2YG/K2AL**
4. August 26- Bell Labs Museum Tour
5. Sept. 9- QSLing- Alternatives to LoTW - KD2THY
6. Sept 23 Estate Planning
7. October- Open
8. November- Flex Radio/ Club officer elections
9. Holiday Luncheon Saturday, December 7 at Vintage Tavern in Gillette

Meeting closed at 9:00PM by K2UI

Recorded: 6-24-24 by K2AL, Secretary, NPARC

