

TELLICO LAKE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Zoom Meeting Minutes
March 17, 2021

President Mike Wagner KK6OKU called the meeting to order at 1900 EDT. There were 18 participants, including one new member (John Kiley KO4MIY) and three guests.

Vice President's Report – Presented by Mike Foley K4MJF

- The Sevierville Hamfest is coming to the Sevier County Fairgrounds 27 Mar 21, 0800-1600. Admission is \$5.
- The TLARC Foxhunt is scheduled for 10 Apr 21, 1000-1400, at Lenoir City Park shed #4. The event is open to all and will feature a minimum of two foxes. In the event of inclement weather, we will cancel and reschedule the event.
- Welcome to new member John Kiley KO4MIY. He made his first amateur radio contact with KK6OKU, and his ARRL first contact certificate is on its way. Congratulations, John!
- We are hoping to hold our first 2021 in-person meeting in April. We are considering potential venues and will follow applicable COVID guidelines. Stay tuned.
- Sevier County is hosting a National Competitive Training Conference at Rocky Top Sports World in Gatlinburg, 19 Jul 21. This is a joint effort involving all area radio clubs and showcasing emergency communications (EMCOMM) capabilities. More to follow.
- Upcoming contests include the VA QSO Party, 20-21 May 21.

Treasurer's Report – Presented by George Sifnotis WB9TFR

- The TLARC checking account balance is \$1,428.
- George Sifnotis WB9TFR will be hosting an antenna raising party in the near future. More details will follow.

Secretary's Report – Presented by Chuck Ferguson N4CSF

- Draft minutes of the 17 Feb 21 Zoom meeting were distributed on 14 Mar 21. No revisions were received, and the minutes were submitted for TLARC approval.
- David Andrews N1ESK commented the 2021 ARRL Field Day date should be changed to 26-27 Jun 21.
- Brad Berger KM4OJK moved to approve the minutes, as revised, and Joyce Tarbell K1JAT seconded. The motion carried.
- There are 47 paid-up members on the current TLARC roster, which now reflects Tim Montgomery's new call sign of N4TLM.

President's Report – Presented by Mike Wagner KK6OKU

- Club Survey – Remind all your on-air contacts the survey is online.
- The TLARC t-shirt sales have been phenomenal. The shirts have been ordered, and the club will clear ~\$170.

- God's Cozy Acres Purchase – Juan Lopez AC6ZM spent \$117 on the 90-degree beverage antenna, with \$20 of this amount paying his dues. Randy Kruszka WK9M moved to approve the \$97 reimbursement, and George Heron N2APB seconded. The motion carried.
- We plan to convene the April general meeting in person and are checking venues for dinner and the meeting. Bert's banquet room will be no charge. Country Kinfolk wants \$18 per person in advance and \$100 for their banquet room. We welcome other venue suggestions. Brad Berger KM4OJK mentioned Z's. We want to rotate venues each month to maximize community outreach and would like to appoint an event coordinator to fill this position.

Zoom Sharing Session

- Automatic Packet Recording System (APRS) briefing by William McKeehan KI4HDU.
- APRS is a two-way tactical, real-time digital communications system – not just for locating and positioning data.
- A short-burst FM signal (primarily) conveys data on altitude, course, speed, position, frequency, etc. Main operating frequency is 144.39 simplex at 1200 baud. There are occasional 70 cm and HF operations at 700 baud.
- APRS is a great digital support tool for coordinating, organizing, and communicating. Main usage categories include positioning reports, weather reports, telemetry, and messaging.
- System components generally include a transceiver, terminal node controller (TNC), display, and GPS.
- There are numerous local examples of APRS support, including the Knoxville Marathon, the Cherohala Skyway race(s), and others.
- William KI4HDU also covered various hardware and software options for base, mobile, and portable operations that can be researched online.
- The presentation was very informative and well received. William KI4HDU field questions during the meeting and after adjournment. He will provide the slide file for posting to TLARC.net.

Repeater Committee Chair's Report – Presented by Dave Weikert KF4DKW

- Dave KF4DKW performed preventive maintenance during a repeater site visit last week.
- He is planning another visit next month.

Website Committee Chairman's Report – Presented by Mike Wagner KK6OKU for George Heron N2APB

- Club t-shirts are still available for order.

Net Committee Chair's Report – Presented by Randy Kruszka WK9M

- Nets are going well.
- Anyone desiring to be added to, removed from, or rescheduled on the Net Control list should contact Randy at WK9M@arrl.net.

PIO Committee Chair's Report – Presented by Mike McMillan KD9DCW

- Nothing reported.

Old Business

- Nothing was discussed.

New Business

- Nothing was discussed.

Adjournment

- Mike Wagner KK6OKU adjourned the meeting at 2005 EDT.

Respectfully submitted by Chuck Ferguson N4CSF, TLARC Secretary.