



Newport County Radio Club

Post Office Box 3103, Newport, RI 02840 www.w1sye.org

The NCRC meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM on November 9, 2020, by Richard KC1IPJ. There were 46 members in attendance and one guest. Minutes from the prior meeting were read and approved.

Phil Temples, K9HI, our ARRL Vice Director for the New England Division, discussed the FCC Docket 20-270 NPRM asking our members to file comments before the November 16th deadline to avoid a \$50 fee being added for new licenses, upgrades, and renewals.

Paul K1YBE reported on three new members who were voted in by the membership, bringing the total membership to 162 (with 32 who have not paid dues for 2020).

- Mary Nassaney (KC1ODO) Newport
- David Quinn (KC1ODE) Warwick
- James Meltzer (WA2TNX) West Warwick

Education, Jack N1JK, reported a very successful exam session on October 24th with 14 new Tech licenses and 2 new Generals. He will hold the regular Dec 12th VE session at St Lucy's using a similar drive-thru format. Jack is looking for VEs (13 needed). A Handheld Radio class will be held sometime in December. Paul K1BYE, and Ted W1GRI are ordering and programming the radios, and John K1JSM will distribute those outside the Newport County Area. Bob WB4SON will announce and hold the class. Volunteers will be needed to monitor NB1RI repeaters as well as 146.52 Simplex.

Ted W1GRI gave the treasurer's report, indicating we have \$6603.65 available for general purposes and another \$2000 set aside for the IBM Grant (MESH Networking). A \$1415 check is outstanding on the purchase of the BridgeCom hardware.

Willy W1LY reported on several POTA activations, and noted that a POTA@W1SYE.org email group has been formed. If you want to stay up-to-date on POTA, please email that address and ask to be added into the fun.

Willy W1LY gave an update on the W1SYE repeater. The repeater committee recommends the purchase of a BridgeCom BCR-50V repeater which was ordered and received. It was installed today (November 9th) but there are additional issues, likely due to the feedline and antenna. At the moment, the courtesy beep is missing and the RX is experiencing some desense. The equipment needed to test the feedline, antenna, and duplexer is out for calibration, so further adjustments won't happen until mid to late December.

The slate of proposed officers was placed into nomination, then voted in unanimously by the membership. The officers for the 2021 year are:

- President: Peter Bartram KQ1X
- Vice President: Paul Fredette K1YBE
- Treasurer: Ted Wrobel W1GRI
- Secretary: Bob Beatty WB4SON
- Immediate Past President Richard Bianco KC1IPJ
- Executive Committee: Willy McClean W1LY
- Executive Committee: David Huth KC1LON
- Executive Committee: Jim Sammons KA1ZOU
- Executive Committee: Pete Lawson W1LAB
- Executive Committee: Mary Nebiolo KC1NEB

The meeting was adjourned at 8:13 PM. Bob WB4SON gave a short presentation on "POTA" explaining how the program works, what gear is required to "Activate" a park, and how you can participate. The presentation is on the website (Documents Tab, Current Year, Presentations). Discussion continued on POTA as well as portable radio configurations until 9:30 PM.

Submitted by WB4SON