

Minutes for BGMRC, Inc.

Call to Order

A regular monthly meeting of The Bill Gremillion Memorial Radio Club, Inc. was held on January 24, 2019, at the Newnan Golden Corral. The meeting was called to order at 1908 hrs and was presided over by President Scott Marlowe, WX4SKY, with Beth Walker, KB4BAW as secretary.

Attendees

Voting members in attendance included: see check-in sheet. A quorum was present.

Guests in attendance included: see check-in sheet.

Members not in attendance: see check-in sheet

A Point of Order was called for by Tony Oresteen, W1AJ0, who was recognized by the President. Mr. Oresteen stated that he was in disagreement with the process of the 2019 election of officers held at the October 2018, meeting. He added that neither proxy nor absentee votes were permitted and should have been according to Georgia state Law, as the By-Laws do not specifically state otherwise. He requested that the 2018 board of officers be placed back in control.

Peter Gabel, AI4QA, **moved to suspend the rules** for 10 minutes for discussion and stated he intended to move for a vote to override the election. The motion was not seconded and not well taken by Mr. Marlowe.

Discussion of the topic was held. Dan Warnock, KI4GWT, Rick Melville, KK4DDK, and Scott Royle, KK4D were each recognized and offered various pieces of information from the By-Laws and Roberts Rules of Order. Mr. Marlowe stated that after members received an email on this topic from Mr. Oresteen prior to the meeting, local attorney/magistrate, Robert Stokely, was consulted who stated in his opinion “as the By-Laws state “by ballot of the members present” it is pretty simple that a member must be present in order to cast a vote. Therefore, GA statue does not apply”

Mr. Marlowe ruled against the Point of Order and stated that the By-Laws were clear on the topic. Proxy or absentee votes are not permitted.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the October, 2018 meeting were made available on the BGMRC Yahoo Groups Page, emailed to the membership with current email addresses, and in the attendance log book. Tony Oresteen W1AJ0 noted a correction was needed. It was requested to correct the month of January to October under the approval of minutes heading.

The minutes read:

The minutes of the January, 2018 meeting were made available on the BGMRC Yahoo Groups Page, emailed to the membership with current email addresses, and in the attendance log book. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Todd Walker – WA4TAW, and seconded by Scott Marlowe – WX4SKY. Motion carried my voice vote.

The minutes were corrected to read:

The minutes of the ~~January~~, September, 2018 meeting were made available on the BGMRC Yahoo Groups Page, emailed to the membership with current email addresses, and in the attendance log book. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Todd Walker – WA4TAW, and seconded by Scott Marlowe – WX4SKY. Motion carried my voice vote.

A motion to approve the minutes with the correction was made by Todd Walker – WA4TAW, and seconded by Scott Royle – KK4D. Motion carried my voice vote.

Announcements

New members to the BGMRC who were present at the meeting were introduced and each asked to say a few words. The membership welcomes:

Carl Bellamy – who is awaiting his callsign

Julie Byerley - KN4HYM

David Christie – WB5KFP

Justin Byerley - KN4HYN

Mr. Marlowe shared that 14 new members have been added since the first of the year and that both an e-mail and postcard campaign have been initiated to recruit new members.

Officers' Reports

Treasurer – Rick Melville – KK4DDK – Provided the Treasurer's Report

Unfinished Business:

None

New Business:

Mr. Marlowe presented a motion that asked members to clarify the definition of membership to the club. The motion was sent out to the membership in advanced of the meeting via e-mail. It is noted that Mr. Oresteen stated that the motion is out of order.

The motion was read in its entirety by Secretary, Beth Walker.

Article IX DUES:

The club, by the majority vote of those present at any regular meeting, may levy upon the general membership such dues and assessments as will be deemed necessary for the business of the organization within its objects as set forth in the preamble. Nonpayment of such dues and/or assessment may be cause for dismissal from the club at the discretion of the membership.

In an effort to avoid confusion, the 2019 BGMRC board presents for membership approval the following motion to clearly define the conditions that will be considered in place regarding 2019

BGMRC membership status. BGMRC dues are due on January 1st of each year per the BGMRC Bylaws.

5 POINT MOTION BELOW WILL BE PRESENTED TO MEMBERSHIP THIS THURSDAY FOR CONSIDERATION

1. Paid members from the previous year will be given a one (1) month grace period to pay their 2019 dues beginning on January 1st, 2019. During which time period they will be considered members and retain all privileges of full membership as outlined in the BGMRC Bylaws.
2. On February 1st any unpaid member(s) will be considered Inactive and shall no longer possess the rights and privileges of a full member of the BGMRC including the right to participate in any club membership votes. This period of inactive status shall remain in place for up to one (1) month. During this period the individual(s) will remain on the BGMRC membership roster but will show an INACTIVE as their status until when and if their dues are paid.
3. On March 1st inactive members will be removed from the official BGMRC roster and be considered non-members. These individual(s) can rejoin the BGMRC by submitting a new membership application and appropriate payment.
4. Any member experiencing a financial situation that would prohibit him/her from paying their dues or create an overbearing burden will be given an automatic 90-day extension by contacting any BGMRC officer. This request would push the due date for their dues to April 1st. An extension beyond 90 days, a reduction in dues, or an exception to paying dues all together could be granted if approved by the BGMRC membership at a regular club meeting. All members requesting extensions, reductions or elimination of dues payments shall remain totally anonymous and will be referred to simply as REFERENCED MEMBER during discussions and any potential votes regarding their membership status and dues.
5. This clarification of membership status shall remain in place and in force until such time that membership votes to amend/change it or the bylaws are changed.

Officers reason for motion and thought process-

the BGMRC board unanimously supports this motion. The reasons for presenting the following motion are as follows.

- * Without a clear definition of a BMRC member it makes determining a valid quorum impossible.
- * The Board considers dues a necessary part of membership. The member commitment is very minimal at \$30 but, the board does not consider dues payments as optional.
- * There has to be a "standard" of defining membership and currently the board considers that standard the payment of one's dues.
- * It seems unlikely that a \$30 dues payment would be considered an unreasonable burden however, the board would like to ensure that members are not removed from the club roster due to a legitimate inability to pay their membership dues.
- * The board wants to make sure that in the unlikely event that a member has simply overlooked paying his dues that there is a method to quickly re-join the BGMRC.
- * The board believes that the wording in the BGMRC constitution was an oversight and that the spirit of the article was not intended to allow members to consider membership dues as

optional. Some have interpreted article 9 to mean that the act of membership approving to assess dues would automatically facilitate that members would be required to pay the member approved dues. However, we have chosen to make the motion for clarification even though it may not be required under article 9, just to eliminate any possible conflicts.

* We believe that all members will agree that a member should be required to pay his dues. However, last year a brief argument was presented that someone didn't have to pay dues if they didn't want to. That argument could result in confusion and chaos and the board believes that the best solution is to clearly define membership as provisioned in the BGMRC constitution and eliminate any misunderstanding and provide a clear definition of membership. We consider this primarily a commonsense clarification but, a clarification that would tie up a potential "loose end" whether that potential argument be real or just a theoretical argument.

The floor was opened for discussion.

David Christie, WB5KFP moved to amend Point #1 to read:

Paid members from the previous year will be given a one (1) month grace period to pay ~~their 2019~~ the current year's dues beginning on January 1st, ~~2019~~. During which time period they will be considered members and retain all privileges of full membership as outlined in the BGMRC Bylaws.

Second by Gary Beckstedt – WB4GMB

Motion carried by voice vote

Mr. Royle moved to vote on each point as a separate motion.

Second by Mary Jean Kimble – KK4YTN

Motion carried by voice vote

Mr. Royle moved to amend Point #4 to read:

Any member experiencing a financial situation that would prohibit him/her from paying their dues or create an overbearing burden will be given an automatic 90 day extension by contacting any BGMRC officer. This request would push the due date for their dues to April 1st. An extension beyond 90 days, a reduction in dues, or an exception to paying dues all together could be granted if approved by the BGMRC ~~membership at a regular club meeting~~ board. All members requesting extensions, reductions or elimination of dues payments shall remain totally anonymous and will be referred to simply as REFERENCED MEMBER during discussions and any potential votes regarding their membership status and dues.

Second by Todd Walker – WA4TAW

Motion carried by voice vote

No further discussion

Motion #1 carried by voice vote

Motion #2 carried by voice vote

Motion #3 carried by voice cote

Motion #4 carried by voice vote

Motion #5 carried by voice vote

**Todd Walker – WA4TAW moved to establish the BGMRC Old Timers (OT) Membership
Second by Tony Oresteen**

**Dan Warnock – KI4GWT moved to have the motion be clarified to reflect it is by age.
Second by Mr. Beckstedt**

Discussion was held with concern over how to determine the oldest member.

**Frank Kimble – KK4WTM moved to have Date of Birth added to the membership application
Second by David Prudhomme – AC4DP**

Discussion was held with membership concerns over security of the information and member privacy.

The motion was withdrawn by Mr. Kimble

Mr. Oresteen moved to amend and accept the motion as:

The complimentary membership will be awarded to the oldest licensed HAM radio operator **by age to the best of our knowledge**, in the club who has been a member in good standing for at least one year immediately preceding the awarding of the complimentary membership.

Second by Scott Royle

Motion carried by voice vote

Adjournment

With no further business noted, a motion for adjournment was made by Mr. Walker and seconded by Mr. Royle. Motion carried by voice vote with adjournment at 2027 hrs.

Respectfully Submitted

Beth A. Walker, Secretary

Secretary
BGMRC

Date of Approval