

MINUTES OF LONG ISLAND DX ASSOCIATION - MEETING –May 19, 2020

The COVID Virus lockdown continues and the May meeting of the Long Island DX Association was held online via ZOOM.

John, W2GW, the LIDXA President, called the meeting to order at 8:00PM. Present via ZOOM at tonight's meeting included John, W2GW, Louise, K2MAU, Tom, KA2D, Steve, N2AJ, Jack, NU2Q, Dave, KA2HTV, Adrian, KO8SCA, Bob, K2YGM, Art, N2KA; Rich, KB2ZPB; Rick, K2RB; Karen, W2ABK, Lou NO2C, Salli K2RYD.

John welcomed all attendees and the meeting proceeded.

Due to the nature of a ZOOM gathering, John hosted the meeting in a conversational style with all mikes un-muted. The usual format for a meeting became more relaxed as members freely interacted among themselves about many issues involving the DX community in general and issues members are experiencing in their current DX operations. Discussions particularly ranged from recent and prospective DX to technical issues with member's stations

Members observed that with solar conditions remaining poor, the FT8 and FT4 digital modes offer the best opportunities to make DX contacts. Japanese and other Far Eastern stations have been worked by members during the past month on 20 meters at around 1200 UTC. European stations are workable all day and Middle Eastern and South American stations often come in well on the band at about 2000 UTC. There was even a brief comment about working MSK144 on 6 meters. There are also opportunities to work meteor scatter.

A quorum of the membership being present, President John, W2GW, moved that regular elections be held for the positions of Officer and Director of the Long Island DX Association. Current Officers and Directors are:

OFFICERS

President - John W2GW

Vice-President - Tom KA2D

Treasurer - John W2GW

Secretary - Jack NU2Q (recently appointed)

DIRECTORS:

N2AJ - Steve

KO8SCA - Adrian

KA2HTV - Dave

Nominations were called for from the floor. There being none, all incumbents were elected without opposition for a new term of two years.

Lou, NO2C gave a summary of the K2H program organized by the Great South Bay ARC to express gratitude to all in New York State who are on the front line taking personal risks to tend to the needs of the sick as well as the healthy and also to remember those whose lives were taken in this COVID crisis. Amateurs from each NY county use the call K2H followed by the abbreviation for the county from which they are operating. Lou gave this update as of tonight:

15,302 QSOs

126 Countries

1449 Counties

54,163 QRZ Lookups

403 Logs Submitted

3 EME Contacts

As suggested by Walt, W2TE, in a prior meeting, the Grumman repeater, WA2LQQ at 145.33 with PL 136.5 may possibly be used as a bulletin board for club members to announce the presence of DX stations. Karen, W2ABK spoke to the trustee as to this possibility and he consented. Therefore, the LIDXA wishes to express its thanks and appreciation to Ed Gellender, WB2EAV for his approval.

Adrian, KO8SCA spoke about the international STAYHOME project organized by Martti Laine, OH2BH, involving stations around the globe using the STAYHOME suffix. This project will come to an end with a final event on June 6 - 7. This will be a contest type program with awards given to amateurs who achieve a required amount of contacts. Look at qrz.com under OH2STAYHOME for details.

Tom, KA2D, spoke about Contest University which was held via ZOOM on May 14th. There were many informative sessions and the program is available online for anyone wishing to see a particular topic.

Continuing with the idea of making the club members aware of DX events, suggestions were made for an alternative to 2 meter announcements. A Facebook product and What's App were among the suggestions although several members expressed dissatisfaction with the use of Facebook as a means of providing updates. A decision on the matter was postponed to a later meeting. The business portion of the meeting concluded at 9PM.

John then presented a film on the DXpedition of XZ0A to Myanmar in 2000. At the conclusion of the film, the entertainment portion of the meeting ended at 10 PM.

Next meeting is scheduled for June 16th. John will send out an email with the time and ZOOM information.

Respectfully submitted

Jack Phelan, NU2Q
Secretary

