

MINUTES OF LIDXA INC. MEETING –June 18, 2019

Location: *Town of Oyster Ice Skating Center, Community Room 1, Bethpage, N.Y.*

John, W2GW, the LIDXA President, called to order the meeting at 8:15PM. Present at tonight's meeting included John, W2GW; Louise, K2MAU; Ed, K2MFY; Tom, KA2D; Steve, N2AJ; Jack, NU2Q; Rich, KB2ZPB; Art, N2KA; Walt, W2TE; Frank, N2FF; Adrian, KO8SCA; Bob, K2YGM; and guest Allen, N2KW.

OLD BUSINESS

Some of the following brief DX was briefly noted:

- General comments were made on the low solar flux during the past month which has been around or below 70. The low bands are fairly good, but noisy. Some good openings were reported on 6 and 2 meters.
- A report was made that the present sunspot cycle may reach its minimum between July 2019 and September 2020, followed by a slow recovery of Solar Cycle 25 toward a weak maximum in 2023-2026.
- Several members indicated that they were successful in working the Rebel DX group in their DXpedition to Conway Reef as 3D2CR. Their next stop might be on Banaba Island, T33T. They will be sailing in the region until mid-October.

NEW BUSINESS

First order of business was the approval of the May 21 meeting minutes issued by LIDXA Secretary, Ed, K2MFY. These minutes were accepted as issued. Thanks to the efforts of our webmaster Pat, KE2LJ, the minutes appear on the LIDXA web site at: <http://www.qsl.net/lidxa>.

John, W2GW, LIDXA Treasurer, presented the Treasurer's report. The annual 2019 dues of \$25 are now overdue. Two-thirds of the membership has already paid their dues.

Ed mentioned that the Great South Bay ARC has obtained the special event callsign K2M, to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 launch, moon landing and splashdown. Operation will be continuous from July 16 through July 24. GSBARC and LIDXA member, Lou, NO2C, is coordinating efforts.

With the poor propagation Ed indicated that an interesting resource is that from Dr. Tamitha Skov, referred to as the "Space Weather Woman." She presents a forecast of space weather including amateur radio propagation, weekly, on various sites including *YouTube*, but can be usually viewed at <https://www.patreon.com/SpaceWeatherWoman>

Tom, KA2D, reminded the membership that many local clubs would be active with Field Day activities this weekend (June 22-23).

It was reported that LIDXA, Member-at-Large, Les, W2LK, will be a co-team leader on next year's international DXpedition to South Orkney Island, as VP8/VP8DXU, over the timeframe February 20 to March 5, 2020. The LIDXA has already contributed \$100 to this DXpedition. Their web site is <https://sorkney.com/>.

At this point in the meeting club member, Adrian, KO8SCA, discussed his efforts in the forthcoming DXpedition to Tokelau Islands for late September through mid-October 2019. The call sign of ZK3A has been obtained and their web site is <https://tokelau2019.com>. The LIDXA was an early contributor to this DXpedition.

Adrian also mentioned that he will shortly be leaving for the annual ham radio convention in Friedrichshafen, Germany.

With the business portion of this meeting concluded LIDXA member Jack, NU2Q, gave an interesting presentation on the US Postal Sorting, or as he referred to it as "Where is My QSL?" The presentation summarized his efforts in attempting to find out why certain envelopes that were addressed clearly to him from foreign amateur operators were returned to sender. He concluded by summarizing some "do's" and "don'ts" that could be used to avoid future problems.

At the conclusion of Jack's presentation, John showed the scheduled DVD on the October 2006 DXpedition to Kermadec Island as ZL8R, which grossed over 40K QSOs.

The meeting then concluded at 10:10PM after all the club business and entertainment had finished. This will be the last meeting before our summer hiatus. John wished all members a good summer. Our next scheduled meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 17.

Ed Whitman, K2MFY
LIDXA Secretary