

## WARC REGULAR MEETING – December 14, 2021

The December 2021 Regular Meeting was brought to order at 7:09 p.m. via Google Meet with President Kevin VE1KEV as chair.

21 members took part including Kevin VE1KEV, Robert VE1RMJ, Eric VE1JW, Pravin VE9PKV, Ron VE1BBB, new club member Steve Jenkins VE1SV, George VY2GF, Gordon VE9GC, Matt VA1MRT, Scott VE1CHL, Steve VE1OR, Mike VE1MY, Brad VE1ZX, Brian VE1BSD, Jim VE1JBL, Peter VE1WIN, Ron VE1BIC, Ken VE1UF, Terry VE1AS, James VE9WIN and Dana VE1VOX. Regrets from Lorne VE1BXX.

A minute of silence was observed for club member Bob Perry VE1EDP (SK).

**The Agenda** for the meeting was approved. Moved by Jim VE1JBL; seconded by Pravin VE9PKV

### **Minutes from the Last Meeting:**

The minutes from the November, 2021 regular meeting were posted on the Website and circulated by email. It was moved/seconded by Ron VE1BIC/Peter WIN that the minutes be approved. **Motion carried.**

### **Business Arising From the Minutes:**

Nothing to report.

### **New Business:**

Mike VE1ZB (who was not connected) had inquired about the possibility of one of the Moncton repeaters (VE9SHM) being hard-linked to VE1SPH in Springhill. Brad VE1ZX said it would require two link radios and two antennas, and we would have to get permission from the hospital. He also said we would lose the

MAVCOM link, and we would need permission from Ron VE1AIC for a UHF link frequency. A stainless steel rack would be needed to weigh down the antenna and mast. Brad also noted that a new roof had been put on the hospital last summer. Rob VE1RMJ wondered if there were any other options for linking. Brad suggested that possibly MESH could be used. After some discussion on equipment needed to set this up it was decided to set it aside for now.

As for S.M.A.R.T. Jim VE1JBL said they had revamped the proposed schedule, so that each class or session would be an hour long, with a 15 minute break between sessions. This would allow more time for breakdown and setup. There would be 8 classes or sessions instead of 12. The Nova Scotia Public Safety and Field Communications demonstration in the arena would take place after lunch, so they could get away in the early afternoon. George VY2GF said a MESH session would generate considerable interest. He said they are looking for someone to do a presentation on wire antennas. Wayne VE1NR asked about having a Fusion demonstration like we had a few years ago with Cory Sickles WA3UVV from Yaesu USA . Ron VE1BIC suggested one could be done via Google Meet. Jim VE1JBL said the schedule was quite full as it is. George noted that we should try to keep the topics technical, and keep “war stories” to a minimum. Dana VE1VOX wondered about the availability of the Springhill Community Centre as he had heard it was being used for COVID vaccinations. Jim VE1JBL said it was “all speculation” at this point. It will come down to what is happening with COVID on April 1<sup>st</sup>. He said Mike VE1MWJ had already booked the Community Centre for April 29<sup>th</sup>. As for obtaining a license for a 50-50 and other raffles, we would just “play it by ear” for now. Brad VE1ZX asked if Jim had heard from Corey, and Jim replied that he hasn’t heard from him for awhile. There was supposed to be some kind of an Amateur Radio forum in the US, with a report about all the Fusion activity in the Maritimes. Brad VE1ZX noted that he had met Corey in Dayton several years ago, which led to Corey being at S.M.A.R.T. in 2018. Pravin VE9PKV said while we are all waiting to see what happens after April 1<sup>st</sup>, maybe we should be looking at a backup plan, possibly meeting by Zoom or Google Meet. Jim said he had no time to work on a backup plan, and asked if there was anyone interested in volunteering. Pravin said he would think about it. Rob VE1RMJ said if people had a presentation that could be done that way, we could work on it.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

Jim VE1JBL presented the Treasurer's Report. It was moved/seconded by Jim VE1JBL/Ron VE1BBB that the Treasurer's Report be accepted. **Motion carried.**

### **Correspondence:**

Nothing to report.

### **Field Day:**

Nothing to report.

### **Publicity:**

Ron VE1BIC has resumed mentioning on the air that more study guides are for sale at the CFTA studios at 80 Church Street in Amherst. He would add that a Study Guide would be a nice Christmas gift.

### **Public Service:**

Nothing to report.

### **Web page:**

Jim VE1JBL said he would be adding information about the proposed 2022 S.M.A.R.T. event to the Club website. Ron VE1 BIC noted that the site had been offline on occasion.

### **E.M.O:**

Ron VE1BIC reported that the Municipality of Cumberland has hired Bill Ireland to be its first director of protective services. He is currently the chief for the Kennebecasis Valley Fire Department, which serves the New Brunswick towns of Rothesay and Quispamsis. The newly created position will oversee the Municipality's fire service, building and fire inspection, bylaw enforcement, and emergency management (REMO). Ireland takes up his duties with the Municipality on February 7, 2022. Jim VE1JBL said Mike VE1MWJ would be serving for a year in a backup capacity.

**N.S.A.R.A:**

Nothing to report.

**President's Report:**

Nothing to report.

**Net:**

Ron VE1BBB reported the Wake up Net was going well, with an average of 40-45 check-ins. The Monday Night Net had about 40 check-ins. Rob VE1RMJ said he had trouble during linking, but he then noticed he was on low power.

**Repeaters:**

Brad VE1ZX reported that everything is working fine. He may be going up to VE1BHS at Sugarloaf to check the DVR.

Kevin VE1KEV asked about noise on VE1WRC, and Brad replied that is was coming from the site. An email from Lorne VE1BXX had said there was a lot of QRM, and he had shut off the DR-2X. He said CQ keeps running. He may have to set up a web switch to shut off the digital repeater on Mondays from 8-9 pm during the Club Net. Brad said they will still need to make another visit to Sand River.

**Unfinished Business:**

Nothing to report.

**Hints & Kinks:**

Nothing to report.

**Technical & Operating Information:**

Dana VE1VOX reported he had been doing some DX-ing lately, and had worked a weather station on Baffin Island via satellite. He will be working on getting his RTLSDR (software-defined radio) up and running.

**Sick & Visiting:**

Nothing to report.

**Social:**

Nothing to report.

**Next Meeting**

Tuesday January 11, 2022 at 7 pm via Google Meet

Adjournment: 7:54 pm.

Ron Bickle VE1BIC Secretary