

## WARC REGULAR MEETING – February 08, 2022

The February 2022 Regular Meeting was brought to order at 7:07 p.m. via Google Meet with President Kevin VE1KEV as chair.

21 members participated including: Ron VE1BBB, Peter VE1WIN, George VY2GF, Borden VA1CBC, Brad VE1ZX, Eric VE1JW, Hal VE1LV, Joe VY2JC, JP VE9ADV, Lorne VE1BXX, Matt VA1MRT, Mike VE1MY, Pravin VE9PKV, Steve VE1OR, Sue VA1SIS (or Terry VE1 AS), Tom VE1TWH, Jon VE1JSG, Jerry VE1KW, Dave VE1DEH, Mike VE9MTV and Bill VA1BIL. Regrets: Dana VE1VOX, Gordon VE9GC.

A moment of silence started the meeting in remembrance of past club members Bill Anderson VE9UH and Bill Durant VE9JMP both of Sackville and who both passed away in the same week in January.

**The Agenda** for the meeting was approved. Moved/seconded by Mike VE1ZB/Pravin VE9PKV.

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

The minutes from the January, 2022 regular meeting were posted on the Website and circulated by email. It was moved/seconded by Ron VE1BIC/Ron VE1BBB that the minutes be approved. **Motion carried.**

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

Lorne VE1BXX gave an update on the permanent linking of VE9SHM in Moncton to VE1SPR on Lynn Mountain. Lorne has had discussion with Bill Elliott VE1MR regarding using different programming, and with Cam VE9CAM about the two second hang timer. The problem is when you link to the Moncton repeater you get a squelch tail. Lorne is waiting to hear if it can be removed. He will have an update during the March “Google Meet.”

George VY2GF again brought up the possibility of an individual living in an apartment setting up a remote HF station. He said it could be a good regional

project. He said there were similar setups in Moncton and Halifax, but the problem is you would need an advanced license in order to operate HF this way. George also noted that while this was complicated years ago it was now “dead simple.” Peter VE1WIN said the ruling in the USA is the same. Steve VE1OR noted that it doesn’t have anything to do with complexity, but more with how to operate on the HF bands. Robert VE1RMJ suggested we need to clarify the requirements. Mike VE1ZB noted that there is not a huge amount of interest here and suggested the individual could work with the Halifax or Moncton clubs for now. JP VE9ADV said the qualifications are very clear on the Industry Canada website. He said one issue is that the HF station may “hang up” once in awhile, and the remote user would not know if an antenna were down, or if the bands are in use. Kevin VE1KEV will contact members who have advanced certificates to see if there is any interest. George VY2GF ended the discussion by saying he still felt it would be a great public service.

### **New Business:**

Ron VE1BBB said he had two Advanced Study Guides available. Peter VE1WIN said he would take one. Tom VE1TWH noted that there was an Advanced Course being offered through RAC which is free for Maple Leaf members.

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

Jim VE1JBL presented the Treasurer’s Report. It was moved/seconded by Jim VE1JBL/Peter VE1WIN that the Treasurer’s Report be accepted. **Motion carried.**

### **Correspondence:**

Ron VE1BIC said he had just received his notice to renew his RAC membership. He urged other members who are not RAC members to join, as this helps reduce the cost of the WARC’s insurance through RAC.

**Field Day:**

Nothing to report.

**Publicity:**

Ron VE1BIC said they were still mentioning on the air on 107.9 that more study guides are for sale at the CFTA studios at 80 Church Street in Amherst.

**Public Service:**

Nothing to report.

**Web page:**

Nothing to report.

**E.M.O:**

Mike VE1ZB asked when the new Director of Protective Services would be taking up his position. Ron VE1BIC noted that it had been announced in December that Ron VE1BIC reported that the Municipality of Cumberland has hired Bill Ireland, who was due to begin on February 07 (the previous day). Mike VE1MWJ would be serving for a year in a backup capacity.

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

George VY2GF mentioned that there had been an undertaking to create a separate RAC section manager position for Nova Scotia. Lorne VE1BXK said he had talked to Bill Elliott VE1MR about the prerequisites needed to acquire spare MTR-2000 repeaters from the NSARA. He was advised to contact Tom VE1TA. He and Brad VE1ZX will look into how many repeaters sites here in Cumberland County could

be upgraded with these newer repeaters and present this info to our next club meeting.

### **President's Report:**

Nothing to report.

### **Nets:**

Mike VE1ZB said the Monday night Net was doing well, in the mid 30's and 40's He noted that there are more non-members than WARC members. Ron VE1BBB said the Wake Up Net was averaging 40-45 check-ins. Jim VE1JBL said the Fusion Net the previous week had 40 contacts, with 1 or 2 new members each week. He said it is "pretty much a WARC Net."

### **Repeaters:**

The Club had already discussed the newer "used" repeaters available from the NSARA. As for the VE1SPR to VE9SHM linking proposal, Lorne VE1BXX said the existing link radio at SPR has the 2 second timer, which is present whether it is used locally or coming through Moncton. He said we could ask Moncton to remove the squelch tail from their repeater, or we could replace the existing UHF radio with a more up-to-date radio with CTCSS tones. It would cost about \$200 per radio if we went with the CDM 1250. Steve VE1OR asked if the CDM 750 radio would also work. Brad VE1ZX wondered if maybe we should get two radios. He noted that he and Lorne were looking after 12 repeaters, and said some of the older repeaters should be replaced. Joe VY2JC has plans to move to Nova Scotia and his Fusion repeater could be made available to the WARC.

### **Unfinished Business:**

George VY2GF gave an update on plans for S.M.A.R.T. 2022 being planned for April 30 in Springhill. He noted that PEI had just announced Phase 3 and he hoped NS would follow suit. He said they have a good cross-section of topics and thought we needed to have a face-to-face meeting soon. Jim VE1JBL suggested we use Google Meet. Jon VE1JSG wondered if we should push it ahead to May, but George said we should stick with the date we have for now. Mike VE1ZB agreed that the end of April was the best time for it. George said one “prominent presenter” was already confirmed for April 30, and we could lose him if we move it to May. Jim VE1JBL said we should wait and see what Nova Scotia announces on Wednesday (the following day).

### **Hints & Kinks:**

Ron VE1BIC mentioned an issue he had encountered with one of the CFTA Generac generators. If it failed to start because of “under voltage” the problem could be frost on a sensor in the generator section. If the inside of the case is kept warm with a light bulb or heater, frost will not prevent the generator from starting in cold weather.

### **Technical & Operating Information:**

Nothing to report.

### **Sick & Visiting:**

Nothing to report.

### **Social:**

Nothing to report.

**Next Meeting**

Tuesday March 08 2022 at 7 pm via Google Meet

Adjournment: 8:11 pm.

Ron Bickle VE1BIC Secretary