

WARC REGULAR MEETING – October 11, 2022

The October 11 2022 Regular Meeting was brought to order (following the Annual General Meeting) at 7:30 p.m. via Google Meet with President Kevin VE1KEV as chair.

23 members participated including Jim VE1JBL, Robert VE1RMJ, Mike VE1MY, Peter VE1WIN, Borden VA1CBC, George VY2GF, Terry VE1AS, Kevin VE1KEV, Bruce VE1VH, Frank VE1FSM, Jim VE1CHI, David VE9DWJ, Pravin VE9PKV, Ron VE1BIC, Scott VE1CHL, Steve VE1SV, Don VE9CUB, Jon VE1JSG, Mike VE9MTV, Steve VE1OR, Mike VE1ZB, Brad VE1ZX and our newest member Charles VE1CPI.

Regrets from Eric VE1JW, Gorden VE9GC, Dana VE1VOX and Frank VE3AC.

The Agenda for the meeting was approved. Moved/seconded by Ron VE1BIC/Peter VE1WIN.

Minutes from the Last Meeting:

The minutes from the September 06 2022 regular meeting were posted on the Website and circulated by email. There were three corrections – the call sign one of the newest members Frank VE3AC was mistakenly shown as “VE1AC”, David VE9DWJ was left off the list of participants, and in the discussion during the AGM about Club insurance, it should have said “*Mike VE9 MTV said the Moncton club was paying \$1,200.00 for insurance. (not \$2,000.00).*”

It was moved/seconded by Ron VE1BIC/David VE9DWJ that the minutes be approved. **Motion carried.**

Business Arising From the Minutes:

Frank VE1FSM is still taking orders for any Club members wanting a “custom illuminated call sign.” The new price is \$40.00 plus shipping, Details at <https://hamshack.ca/custom-callsigns/> Those interested can contact Frank at ve1fsm@gmail.com or call him at 902-297-2351. Frank said if the Club wants a free sign we would just have to pay for the shipping.

George VY2GF gave an update on creating the Atlantic Canada version of the program called SASTAR (or Southern Alberta Support Team for Amateur Radio) which is a group of Trainers and “Support Elmers” who are interested in helping support the Amateur Radio community during the new COVID-19 restrictions and lifestyle. George said he has created a group called APSTAR (Atlantic Provinces Support Team for Amateur Radio) but is still looking for someone to manage the site. He has asked a few people to post messages.

Robert VE1RMJ is still looking for people to help with planning an Amateur Radio MESH project for this area. He said the hardware needed is now 2-3 times more expensive. He is still working with Mike VE1ZB to test two MESH devices in the Oxford area. He said trees may be blocking the signal. Mike VE9MTV said he had talks with Steve VE9SF who had set up a MESH network in Moncton. Steve said he had changed the firmware. He also said you need a lot of people to take part, so the MESH keeps growing. Steve had said people have the equipment but are not active. Robert said he has also reached out to Steve. He noted that AREDN (or Amateur Radio Emergency Data Network) has been re-branded. Kevin VE1KEV said the whole idea was to be able to transfer files and text when the Internet was down. Robert gave some other examples of how a MESH system could be used including MESH chat, video chat, file servers, security cameras, and monitoring river levels. He said the devices could be deployed in remote areas, but are limited to line-of-sight. Mike VE9MTV said they had done an exercise involving a plane crash, and EMO was interested in the ability to transmit real-time images.

New Business:

The September Club Brunch in Parrsboro was cancelled due to post tropical storm Fiona. The next one is on October 22nd at “Breakfast At Brittney’s” in Amherst.

Jim VE1JBL reported that Mike VE1MWJ had joined the Pugwash Search & Rescue group, and he welcomed new (returning) member Charles VE1CPI who is now living in Ottawa.

George VY2GF is in the process of lining up speakers for S.M.A.R.T. 2023 including Chris Vesey to talk about QRP and John VE1CWJ who had given a

presentation on satellites during the RAC AGM. Jim VE1JBL noted that they were still considering early May instead of April for the next Symposium.

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.** Jim reported that Jack VE1CZD had checked the 2021-2022 books and everything was in perfect order. Jim reminded members to pay their dues as soon as possible.

Correspondence:

Nothing to report.

Field Day:

Nothing to report.

Publicity:

Ron VE1BIC said he would continue running a public service message on CFTA 107.9 about Study Guides being available at the station's studios at 80 Church Street in Amherst.

Public Service:

The annual Pumpkin Patrol will be taking place on October 31st. Mike VE1MY, Jim VE1AFH and Mike VE1MWJ will be looking after it.

Web page:

Nothing to report.

E.M.O:

Nothing to report.

N.S.A.R.A:

Nothing to report.

Nets:

Mike VE1ZB reported that the Club Nets had been going well. Most had the number of check-ins in the 20's but one Monday night Net had 31 check-ins. He said all the Net Controllers had been given a turn so far.

Repeaters:

Brad VE1ZX reported he had looked into a problem of a "jam up" on the Wake Up Net. There was some interference on UHF and according to Ron VE1AIC they may have to change the frequency of the link to Shubie. He said he had fixed a computer issue with the new VE1USR repeater on 444.825 MHz.

Hints & Kinks:

Nothing to report.

Technical & Operating Information:

Ron VE1BIC gave a brief outline of what had happened at CFTA-FM (Tantramar Community Radio) during the lengthy power outages caused by post-tropical storm Fiona. The transmitter site on Fenwick Hill (on County land) lost power for

just over a week and was on standby generator power for the entire time. The County EMO has taken steps to ensure the Fenwick site is given “essential service” status in the future, as for a time CFTA was the only means of informing the public about road closures, power outages and locations of comfort centres, as landlines, cell phones and Internet were down in many areas.

Sick & Visiting:

Nothing to report.

Social:

The next monthly Brunch is being planned for Saturday October 22 at “Breakfast At Brittney’s” in Amherst.

Next Meeting

Tuesday October 08, 2022 at 7:30 pm via Google Meet

Adjournment: 8:06 pm.

Ron Bickle VE1BIC Secretary