

WARC REGULAR MEETING – September 05, 2019

The Meeting was brought to order at 7:23 p.m. following the Annual General Meeting, with President Kevin (VE1 KEV) in the chair. 23 members and guests were present.

Minutes From the Last Meeting:

The minutes from the May and June, 2019 regular meetings were posted on the Website and circulated by email.

It was moved/seconded by Ron (VE1 BIC)/Terry (VE1 AS) that the minutes be approved. **Motion carried.**

Business Arising From the Minutes:

There had been an issue with the new Fusion repeater. Lorne (VE1 BXK) had to go back to the old router. Also the computer at the site had downloaded updates that required a reset using the web switch.

It was suggested that we send a card of thanks to Matt Boyle and his staff for their help with the Fusion Radio Project.

Ron (VE1 BIC) suggested we should have a dedication for the new repeater “In Memory of Florence Tuttle” at the October brunch, which is slated for Pugwash. Pravin (VE9 PKV) noted that it should be acknowledged that the WARC had made a donation to Treva following the passing of Peter (VE1 SM).

New Business:

Nothing to report.

Treasurer's Report:

Jim (VE1 JBL) presented the Treasurer's Report.

It was moved/seconded by Jim (VE1 JBL)/Bob (VE1 EDP) that the Treasurer's Report be accepted. **Motion carried.**

Correspondence:

Jim (VE1 JBL) had received an email from George (VY2 GF) in which he is planning to suggest to the RAC about having separate sections for New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. He is also planning to ask the ARRL to have separate regions for Field Day instead of just “Maritimes”. George wanted the subject brought up at the meeting, and is asking Amateurs to contact him with their thoughts.

Jim (VE1 JBL) noted that when he was Atlantic Section Manager he had an

“assistant” in New Brunswick, Al (VE1 RG) and that there was no funding for travel or lodging, and it was a large area to cover.

Rob (VE9 KM) said “the numbers just don’t merit it.”

Don (VE1 AOE) observed that Ontario now has four regions, North, East, South and Greater Toronto Area.

Terry (VE1 AS) said many US states were broken up into sections.

Field Day:

Mike (VE1 MWJ) said the local 2019 Field Day had been planned for June 22-23 at the Tidnish Docks Provincial Park, but had to be scrapped due to a lack of a trailer and too many insects.

Ron (VE1 BIC) said the video of the 1996 Field Day had been converted to digital and could be uploaded to YouTube if the Club agreed.

Publicity:

Ron (VE1 BIC) said he had put an announcement on CFTA 107.9 about the AGM and September meeting.

Public Service:

Scott (VE1 CHL) gave an update on his participation in the 2019 Ledwidge Lookoff Rally that took place in August with 8 teams competing over two days in Dartmouth and Noel . He said eight communications points had been set up.

Newsletter:

Jim (VE1 AFH) has been going through the back issues of the newsletter. He said there are still some files to be checked on Peter’s desktop computer.

Web page:

Jim (VE1 JBL) reported he will be renewing the Website right away. As he was having an issue with lack of space recently, he will be doubling the amount of available space for another \$30.00 per year. He will send out a mass email to WARC members if there is a new item of interest posted to the Website: www.westcumb.ca

E.M.O:

Mike (VE1 MWJ) passed around copies of a proposed “Memorandum Of Understanding” or MOU, between The Cumberland Regional

Emergency Management Organization (REMO) and the WARC (The Club). A long discussion followed in which the matter of liability was brought up. Rob (VE9 KM) had an issue with the part that said "*The Club will support REMO in providing technical knowledge and maintenance of a backup communication system.*" He asked "If an emergency was affecting the general population, and the club fails to do the job as described here, what would happen?"

Mike responded that the Club would just "promise to do its best."

Rob said that part should read "*The Club will endeavor to support REMO.*"

Pravin (VE9 PKV) suggested adding a line that said "*The Club will NOT be held liable.*"

Jim (VE1 AFH) said the County lawyer should be able to put in a clause to "get us off the hook."

Mike (VE1 MWJ) explained that in the past, there had been a lot of concern about MOU's, but this was merely a "formalization" of an understanding from an EMO perspective. It is an "in kind" process instead of a binding civil agreement.

Dana (VE1 VOX) also asked if the Club had any liability coverage for its directors. They may have to defend themselves in a legal situation.

Bob (VE1 EDP) asked "Are we not working under the County EMO?"

Jim (VE1 AFH) said we should address the "red flag" of directors liability, but in the short term, we could just change that one line to say "*The Club will endeavor to support REMO in providing technical knowledge and maintenance of a backup communication system.*"

Jim added this has nothing to do with director's liability insurance.

The Club's members are volunteers with the Municipality of Cumberland, so they are under its umbrella.

Mike (VE1 MWJ) said he will have that line changed, and bring the MOU back to the next Club meeting in October.

Mike also pointed out that tropical storm Dorion could have a major impact on the coming weekend. CANWARN will be on standby. 3.675 HF and the 147.285 repeater. Extra Net controllers will be needed for 8-12 hours, during the most intense period from 9 am Saturday until 3 am Sunday. Flooding is possible in Oxford, Advocate, on Highway 204 and in Two Islands. Comfort centers have been contacted. He said it is important to consider your own environment, think ahead, and "shelter in place." He thanked everyone

for their efforts. He said the County continues to have a good opinion of the Amateur community.

He also announced that all repeater call signs are now under EMO.

N.S.A.R.A:

Jim (VE1 AFH) said there would be a meeting at the Greenwood Fleamarket on Saturday October 19th.

President's Report:

Was presented during the Annual General Meeting.

Net:

Mike (VE1 ZB) said he has made a change to the Net Controllers Preamble for the Monday night Net. He said Bob (VE1 DR) has offered to be a backup Net Controller.

Ron (VE1 BBB) noted there had been 35-40 check-ins on the Wakeup Net.

Repeaters:

Nothing to report.

Unfinished Business:

Jim (VE1 AFH) said the finally tally for the Fusion Repeater Project was almost complete. The final write up will be available for future use.

New Business:

Kevin (VE1 KEV) wondered if there was anything in the works for a 6 metre repeater. Scott (VE1 CHL) said one had recently been moved to the Gore repeater. Dana (VE1 VOX) said there was still a desensitization issue with the VE1 XPR (D-Star) repeater in Springhill.

Hints & Kinks:

Nothing to report.

Sick and Visiting:

Nothing to report.

Technical & Operating Information:

Kevin (VE1 KEV) wondered if HF signals were improving or weakening. Jerry (VE1 KW) explained that the F1 and F2 layers vary from day to day and seasonally. The D layer absorbs AM signals during the day but disappears at sunset. The E and F layers can cause ducting. He said we are in a low sunspot cycle at present.

Social:

The September Brunch will be on the 21st at the Harbourview Restaurant in Parrsboro. The October Brunch will be held in Pugwash at the Lantern Restaurant across from the firehall.

The 50-50 (\$37.50) was won by Dave (VE9 DWJ).

Next Meeting:

Thursday, October 3, 2019 at 7:00 pm at the Municipality of Cumberland Building in Upper Nappan.

Adjournment: 8:53 pm.

Ron Bickle (VE1 BIC) Secretary