

## **WARC REGULAR MEETING – September 06, 2022**

The September 06 2022 Regular Meeting was brought to order (following the Annual General Meeting) at 7:33 p.m. via Google Meet with returning President Kevin VE1KEV as chair.

25 members were logged in. Jim VE1JBL, Bill VA1BIL, Borden VA1CBC, Brad VE1ZX, Bruce VE1VH, Don VE9CUB, Eric VE1JW, Frank VE1FSM, George VY2GF, Gordon VE9GC, Jim VE1CHI, Kevin VE1KEV, Mike VE9MTV, Pravin VE9PKV, Rob VE9KM, Rob VE1RMJ, Ron VE1BIC, Steve VE1OR, Steve VE1SV, Mike VE1MY, Peter VE1WIN, Mike VE1ZB, Joe VE1JCC and new members Bill VA1WV and Frank VE1AC. Regrets from Dana VE1VOX and Dave VE1DEH.

**The Agenda** for the meeting was approved. Moved/seconded by Ron VE1BIC/Mike VE9MTV.

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

The minutes from the June 14 2022 regular meeting were posted on the Website and circulated by email. It was moved/seconded by Ron VE1BIC/Peter VE1WIN that the minutes be approved. **Motion carried.**

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

Jim VE1JBL said he had talked to Mike VE1MWJ about holding “in-person” meetings at the County Municipal Building, and that is a possibility. Other locations could be the Tidnish Community Centre and the Truemanville Fire Hall. Bill VA1BIL suggested the Springhill Community Centre. Jim wondered if the meetings could be combined with a Zoom meeting. Rob VE1RMJ said 75% of our current members are from outside. Jim also said the first Tuesday of the month at 7 pm is not good for him. Rob said the second Tuesday of the month would be better. Others agreed. Rob noted that Wednesday is the Fusion Net. Mike VE9MTV said they had tried a “hybrid” meeting in Moncton and they had many technical difficulties, and some participants could not be heard or could not hear

some of the others. Kevin VE1KEV said if members liked the “in-person” meetings for the social aspect, then maybe we should resume the Saturday brunches. Jim VE1JBL summarized, saying if we have virtual (Google Meet) meetings combined with monthly Saturday brunches, that would “solve the problem for awhile.” Kevin added that the brunches would be a good time to buy, sell or trade equipment. After a “yes” vote from participants, it was decided to hold the next virtual meeting on Tuesday October 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm.

### **New Business:**

Jim VE1JBL proposed that we make a donation to the MAARC Flea Market on September 17<sup>th</sup>. He said the Moncton club was very good to us for S.M.A.R.T. and he proposed donating 4 \$25.00 gas cards. It was moved/seconded by VE1JBL/Steve VE1SV that we make the donation. **Motion Carried.** Mike VE1MY said he would be attending this year.

Jim also gave an update on the WARC Website. He said it had been down for two days in August, and had heard from Mike VE1MWJ that the County was not going to pay for the domain any longer. In the meantime, the site came back on. He felt the Club should be able to take it over. Steve did a quick search of the domain and found that it was registered to the Municipality of Cumberland until March 29, 2023. He said if the WARC wishes to take it over, we should do it well in advance, and it would be better if the current owner transfers it to us.

Frank VE1FSM said if any member wanted a “custom illuminated call sign.” they would cost \$34.00 plus shipping, at <https://hamshack.ca/custom-callsigns/> Those interested can Contact Frank at ve1fsm@gmail.com or call him at 902-297-2351.

George VY2GF gave a brief outline of a program called SASTAR (or Southern Alberta Support Team for Amateur Radio) 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 had been in contact with this group and got permission for us to “clone” their site and add it to the WARC site. He called it “an extension of S.M.A.R.T.” Jim VE1JBL said it could be made a separate page on the current site, but George thought it would be better as a separate site, which could be offered to all four Atlantic Provinces. He wondered if anyone from the WARC could use the source code from the SASTAR site. Kevin

VE1KEV noted that our club members do some of this now, acting as Elmers and help setting up antennas and stations. Jim said for now, he could post the link on “The Maritime Amateur” and see what happens. Website <https://groups.io/g/sastar>

Jim VE1JBL welcomed the Club’s newest members new members Bill Snider VA1WV and Frank Mattix VE1AC which brings the total to 66.

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

Jim VE1JBL presented the Treasurer’s Report. It was moved/seconded by Jim VE1JBL/Bill VA1BIL that the Treasurer’s Report be accepted. **Motion carried.** Jim said everything balanced, and his financial records are now with Jack VE1CZD to be checked. Jim reminded members to play their dues as soon as possible.

### **Correspondence:**

Jim VE1JBL said he had learned from Terry VE9TER that EMO NB was conducting a hospital exercise on September 13 that will be using the VE9SKV repeater. Dave VE9DWJ, Paul VE9TTT and Jerry VE1KW will be taking part.

### **Field Day:**

Nothing to report.

### **Publicity:**

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

### **Public Service:**

Kevin VE1KEV noted that the “Run for the Sun” on Saturday June 25 had been cancelled.

**Web page:**

See note under New Business about the WARC domain name.

**E.M.O:**

Nothing to report.

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

Nothing to report.

**President’s Report:**

Kevin VE1KEV VE1 KEV said while we gained 15 new members in the past years, there were also 6 Silent Keys from this area. He said hosting S.M.A.R.T. in April was a big thing for us, with 150 registered and 127 attending. The Club also purchased 3 surplus repeaters from the NSARA to upgrade our local sites. He said a base antenna for the new Pugwash hospital would still need to be addressed, as well as other repeater work and the MESH project. The Club had purchased a number of study guides to have them available for local residents. Kevin noted that while “in-person” meetings were once again allowed, we seem to have better attendance with virtual meetings. He noted that the WARC was still involved in the Halloween Pumpkin Patrol, organized by Mike VE1MWJ and the WARC had been discussing a permanent link with a Moncton Club repeater.

**Nets:**

Mike VE1ZB reported that the Club Net the previous night had 21 check ins. Jim VE1JBL was Net Control. There are now 5 or 6 regular Net Controllers signed up. Jim VE1JBL noted that the VE1PKT repeater had been downlinked during the Net the previous night.

### **Repeaters:**

Brad VE1ZX reported there was still a problem at Sand River which they haven't got to yet. Brad said the rest of the system seems to be working OK. He had to repair the gate at VE1PAR. There is a new Fusion UHF repeater being set up as VE1USR which will be on 444.825 MHz. Tone 88.5. Rob VE1RMJ asked Brad if he had checked the government website to find out if his site was eligible for Starlink. Brad said he already had access to a "high speed" service, so was not eligible.

### **Hints & Kinks:**

Nothing to report.

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

Rob VE1RMJ said he would like to know how many are still interested in the MESH project. A Zoom meeting was being planned for September 10<sup>th</sup> to discuss what we want to do with it.

### **Sick & Visiting:**

Nothing to report.

### **Social:**

A monthly Brunch is being planned for Saturday September 24, possibly in Parrsboro. Brad VE1ZX will check with the restaurant to see if they will still be open.

**Next Meeting**

Tuesday September 11, 2022 at 7:30 pm via Google Meet

Adjournment: 10:06 pm.

Ron Bickle VE1BIC Secretary