

HALIFAX AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Monthly Club Meeting – 18 January 2017
|Minutes

The January HARC monthly meeting was declared open at 8:15pm with Brian VE1AZV in the Chair

Self Introductions: There were 42 members and 3 guests present.

Report of any Silent keys: Brian reported the following silent keys for December and early January: Bill Gillis (VE1WG); Tom Wilson (VE1SI); Norris Lionel Nathanson (VE1NLN); Arthur (Mel) Ellis (VE9KK); Bonnie Mc VY2TY

Motion to approval the November Monthly meeting minutes as published in the HARC Reflector was made by Bill VE1MR; seconded by Erik VE1JEH Carried

Treasures report: In the absence of Jim (VE1JG), Howard reported the Club financials for the month of December, indicating that there was an opening balance of \$6,878.84, with an income of \$167.50 and expenses of \$129.88 and outstanding cheques of \$ 555.00; ending balance of \$6,361.46. A copy of the full report is appended to the official hard copy of these minutes.

Motion to approve the report of the Treasurer was made by Howard; seconded by Dick VE1AI Carried

Executive Reports:

President's Report – Brian indicated that he has booked the Gymnasium at St. Andrew's for the Down East Flea Market for Saturday June 3rd 2017.

Committee/Project Reports:

- **Basic course up-date:** Dick VE1AI indicated that nine of our students have passed the Industry Canada Basic Exem so far and more are to write next week; three newly minted Hams were in attendance at the meeting and were congratulated on their success by the Chair.
- **Brit Fader Scholarship 2017** – Howard reported that he had met with Paul Radford (VE1ARH) our honorary legal counsel and was informed that there are sufficient funds in the Trust account to offer a \$1500 scholarship again this year. Howard has sent out announcements to RAC, TCA, Maritime Clubs and the HARC email list.
- **Christmas Party Report** – Amanda reported that the Christmas Party attendance was the largest in recent years with a total of 57 members and guests attending.

- **Search and Rescue/EMO** – David (VE1AJP) reported that Dave Pike is now the chief director for the local Search and Rescue unit; he also indicated that the team has been busy with several searches over the Christmas break and into the new year, most resulting in positive outcomes.
- **Membership** – Howard indicated that there were too many renewals made this evening to come up with an accurate membership number but he will report in February.
- **Museum Wireless Room** – Dick (VE1AI) reported that the radio room has been manned by Club members for over 200 hours since opening. They have issued 3477 certificates of CW proficiency (80% adult ; 20% children). There have been ham radio visitors from all over Canada and the States and visitors in general from all over the world. Given the huge level of traffic through the MMA it was emphasized that the Wireless Room is getting extremely well recognized.

Old Business:

- **St Andrews move** –Murray informed the membership that Barry Manuel (the EMO tenant on our behalf at St. Andrews) has not yet received a formal notice to leave the premises; Barry has also indicated that the coordinator of Parks and Recreation is unaware of any reason why the Club should not be welcomed back into any new facility when completed. Murray indicated that it now appears that it will be at least late March 2017 before HRM will be able to deal with the budget for a new facility. It now also appears (notice posted today at the Centre) that nothing is expected to happen to the facility before July 2018. This gives HARC much-needed space to find a temporary alternate location during construction.
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- **Remote Station Move** – Fraser (VE1WO) reported that given it now appears that we will be in this location until July 2018 there is no urgency to move the remote station. However Fraser and Al Prosser are doing some advanced planning to move the station to an alternate site. They have been looking at a provincial site in Middle Sackville off Lively Rd. It appears that there is plenty of room in the building on the site for our equipment and they are looking into an internet connection as well as a way of putting up our antennas. Fraser indicated that the plan is to move forward with planning for a move in the summer of 2017 but it could be postponed until the summer of 2018.

New Business:

- **Ham Breakfast** – Doug reported that Amanda has agreed to organize the Ham Breakfast that will take place on Feb 18th at the Steak and Stein on Young Street in Halifax. Amanda will arrange for a notice to be sent out to the email distribution list.

- **Proposed Membership Fee Increase for 2018** – Brian and Howard reported on a recommendation made by the Executive at their January meeting that given the Club's tight fiscal situation – there will not be any further publications of the Callbook which was the major source of Club income – there was a need for the Club to look at alternate sources of income. The recommendation will come to the February and March meetings for discussion and votes; implementation if passed will be for 2018.

Round Table:

Ian Pearce reported on a way that HARC might generate funds in lieu of a Callbook, by encouraging members to make donations of surplus equipment to the Club where smaller pieces of equipment would be made available each month for silent auction at club meetings. Larger equipment items would be made know to all club members first and then more broadly before bids would be received.

Jeremy (VE1JHF) reported for Terry (VE1TRB) that a Fall Protection course will take place on 25 February in the Club Station and a \$25 donation will be required from participants.

Jason LaPierre reported that an HF radio station has been re-established and is now functional at the Red Cross; Bill indicated that he has been holding an antenna that belongs to the Red Cross. Bill and Jason to discuss transfer.

Dick asked about ordering some long-sleeved shirts for Club members; they would like to have some for members who attend at the MMA Wireless Room. Brian agreed to get some prices on shirts.

Dick indicated that we had great success using the VE100VIMY/VE1 callsign during the first week of January; Nova Scotia was the first province to use the special-event callsign leading up to the 100th anniversary commemoration ceremonies in Vimy France in early April.

Dick suggested that HARC try to get a special callsign assigned to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Halifax Explosion and Fred VE1FA agreed to work with Dick on this project. Because of the displays at the MMA related to the Halifax Explosion, Fred hopes to involve the MMA in our efforts to publicize the explosion anniversary.

Ticket draws:

Door Prize - \$10 gift certificate from Superstore – Ralph Rosere (VE1RAR)
50/50 Draw - \$36.50 – Ralph Rosere (VE1RAR)

Adjournment: On a motion by Don Trotter (VE1DTR) the meeting adjourned at 09:08 pm.