

**HALIFAX AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**  
**Monthly Meeting – 20<sup>th</sup> June 2018**  
**Minutes**

The May monthly meeting of the Halifax Amateur Radio Club was declared open at 20:01 hrs with Don (VE1DTR) in the Chair.

Self Introductions: There were 30 members present thus constituting a quorum.

**Motion to approve the agenda** was made by Brian (VE1AZV) and seconded by Peter (VE1PJW); carried.

**Silent Keys:** There were none to report.

**Motion to approve the May monthly meeting minutes** as published in the HARC Reflector was made by Bill (VE1MR); seconded by Doug (VE1LDL); Carried.

**President's Report:** Jeremy sent his apologies as he was ill for this first meeting in Station 50. He forwarded a brief President's report that Don read into the minutes as follows. The Halifax club Executive has decided to take full control of future Down East Flea Markets due to lack of participation and support by the Dartmouth club in helping with the organization of past events. He reported that there were 190 door tickets sold with 51 tables reserved. In spite of not having any canteen income, the Club still generated more income on the flea market this year than in past years. Jeremy wanted to welcome the members to our new home and to thank those who have helped with the move. There are still a few things to get moved to the new location including our internet connection and remote station, The tower is now up at Station 50 but not yet functional as the antennae need to be put on and cables run to the radio room. Due to the disruption caused by the move the Club will not be able to mount a Field Day this year. Finally, he reminded the membership that there are now new rules around our access to our new Club facilities and he asked members to be considerate as we adjust to change. Now that Barry Manuel has retired, our new boss at HRM is Erica Fleck.

**Treasures report:** Jim (VE1JG) presented the Treasurer's report for the month of May 2018. He reported that the opening bank balance for 1 May 2018 was \$7,806.70. Total income for the month of May was \$2,335.50 with expenses of \$1,074.74. There were no outstanding cheques, therefore our cash position at the end of the month of May was \$ 9,067.46.

**Motion to approve the May report of the Treasurer** - Moved by Jim (VE1JG) seconded by Scott (VE1QD); Carried.

**Executive Reports:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President Report (Don – VE1DTR) – Don reported that we are currently in limbo with respect to our IT and station gear but things are gradually getting sorted out.

- Station Manager Report (Brian – VA1CC) – Brian reported on the Club move. He indicated that we are still waiting on parts that allow for the rotator and antennae to be put in place on the tower, and cables also need to be run from the tower to the radio room. He reported that Pat (VE1PKT) has taken care of moving the security cameras to the new site and Jeremy will port over the two door access swipe pads. Brian reported that our Club station has now been designated the official radio backup to HRM/EMO so this will allow us to run in “F-class” in future Field Days. Brian stressed the importance that all HARC members fill out the Volunteer Registration form for insurance purposes. Brian indicated that parking at Station 50 is somewhat limited, but thanks to John (VE1BIR) who has spoken with the folks at OK Tire next to the station, we are allowed to park there for monthly evening meetings. The secretary to write a note of thanks to OK Tire.

### **Committee/Project Reports:**

- Flea Market Report – Don reported that 190 door tickets were sold with 51 tables reserved. He pointed out that the Dartmouth Club did not provide the volunteers that they had promised. The take on the 50/50 draw was \$107.50; there was a \$950 take on ticket sales; there was a \$300 hall rental paid for by HARC as well as \$80 for a couple of door prizes. The space worked very well and all but one individual were happy with the Legion and it helped that we were not responsible for the canteen. The HARC table brought in \$185.50. Dave Goodwin (RAC Director) was very pleased with the location. It was nice that with this location there was little to do with setup; no canteen to run; and no clean up. It was recommended that we go back to the Sackville Legion next year. Fraser (VE1WO) suggested that in the future we presell tickets to prevent backup at the registration desk. It was also suggested that in the future we should also charge \$5/table to increase revenue.
- NSARA (Bill – VE1MR) – Bill reported that there was a NSARA meeting after the Flea Market. He also reported on the success of the March NSARA contest, however two counties (Queens and Digby) did not have any operation this year.
- Search & Rescue/EMO (David – VE1AJP) – George Snow – George reported that the group was called out to assist with the recent Saltmarsh Trail forest fire; the S&R supplied Argo off-road vehicles to help get gear back to the fire line. They were also asked to standby in the event help was needed if an evacuation was ordered.
- Membership (Jim – VE1PPA) – Jim reported that as of this evening we have the following: 4 Life; 99 Full; 23 Associate 18 Complementary, with 53 HARC members also belonging to RAC.
- HATS (Halifax Auxiliary Telecommunication Service) Update (Scott – VE1QD) – Scott reported that the group has recently lost a couple of critical members who were key in both planning and training. To help build more capacity in critical areas he is setting up a leadership training program to help bring new individuals to the group and get them into positions that take advantage of their skills and background. He also reported that HATS will be conducting a combined public awareness/exercise event at Scott Manor House in Bedford over the first July weekend (10 am to 4 pm Saturday and Sun July 7 & 8 with setup on Friday 6<sup>th</sup>); he hopes that this event will be a chance to promote amateur radio and emergency communications. Anyone wishing to assist should contact Scott.
- Educational Programme Update (Wayne – VE1WPH) – Wayne was absent but Tom (VE1GTC) informed about ongoing discussions with Wayne to manage our basic amateur

radio course. There has been a suggestion that the course move to Saturdays instead of Thursday evenings. There was also a concern raised that students need to be given a formal opportunity during the course to get on the air and gain some confidence behind the microphone. It was also suggested that the Club needs to develop an Elmer system to support new Hams.

- VAIMMA – Maritime Museum Update (Scott – VE1QD) – Scott reported that in absence of Dick (VE1AI) he is now managing the MMA Wireless Room. Things are going well and the museum is very pleased with our contribution. However, they are always looking for additional volunteers to cover mornings especially during the summer tourist season. Anyone wishing to assist should contact Scott.

### **Old Business:**

- HARC Surplus Equipment (Brian – VA1CC) – Brian reported that all surplus equipment that did not go to the Down Flea Market is now in the container on Cowie Hill; it will go to the Greenwood Flea Market in September but anything not sold will be sent to electronic recycling.

### **New Business:**

- Election of Officers
  - Secretary – Bill took over the meeting as a member of the nominating committee. He asked for nominations for the position of Secretary; Brian nominated Howard; seconded by Peter (VE1PJW); carried. With no additional nominations, Howard was declared elected to complete the current term.
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> VP – Bill asked for nominations for the 2<sup>nd</sup> VP position; Helen nominated Peter (VE1PJW); seconded by Jason (VE1PYE); carried. There were no further nominations so Peter was declared elected to fill the remaining term.

### **Round Table:**

Betty (VE1BSW) discussed the resignation of Amanda and Jayne and read the letter of resignation that Amanda had sent to the Executive. The general issue raised by Betty was the apparent lack of support that then Club gives to new members, especially women. More specifically she expressed concern over what these two women, who are Associate Members, feel is lack of respect for them and lack of appreciation for what they have contributed to the Club. Scott (VE1QD) spoke to Betty's comments and expressed a desire for the Executive to sit down with Amanda and Jayne to find out what the basis is for their resignation with the hopes of amicably resolving this issue. There was also support for Jayne and Amanda given by several to assist these women in getting their Amateur Radio license. Finally, there was a suggestion by Betty that the Club by-laws be changed to eliminate the Associate membership class and have only one class of membership, that being a Full member; this generated a significant discussion with respect to the essence of an Amateur Radio club. Bill indicated that changes to our By-Laws need to be done at the AGM. It was agreed that Betty and Bill will sit down and attempt to update the Club by-laws and bring forward formal recommendations to the membership at a future date.

Wayne (VE1BAB) indicated that he is organizing a 2A-class Field Day event at Port Williams and encouraged HARC members to take part since we will not be holding a HARC Field Day this year.

They will have a GOTA station so that too will be a good opportunity for our newly licensed members to get on the air in a contest setting.

Fred (VE1FA) informed the group about two upcoming radio operations. He and nine other operators (2/3 of whom are from HARC) will be going to Bon Portage Island near Shag Harbour and will operate as VB1M in the 2018 IOTA contest. He also reported that he and Helen (VA1YL) are heading to the Bering Sea to operate on one of the Walrus Islands in Alaska; they will be on SSB 20 and 40 metres only and will have internet access. They will tentatively operate from July 5 – 10 as VE1FA/KL7 and VA1YL/KL7.

**Ticket draws:** 50/50 Draw – \$ 23.00 was won by Bill (VA1ALW).

**Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn made by at Brian (VA1CC) at 21:01 hrs.

Respectfully submitted by Howard Dickson (VE1DHD) Acting Secretary on June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018.