

**Halifax Amateur Radio Club
Minutes of the General Meeting
19 February 2020**

1. Welcome to the HARC monthly meeting for February 19, 2020:

The meeting was called to order by President Brian, VA1CC at approximately 1910 hours.

2. Acceptance of the Agenda:

A motion was made to accept the agenda by Bill, VE1MR, seconded by Roger, VA1RST, motion passed.

3. Roll Call: 36 members and visitors were in attendance.

4. Report of any Silent Keys: VE1AI reported that Eric Dephart a past member of the Greenwood Club, now a VE3 had passed, call not available.

5. Approval of Minutes of January 2020 as printed in the Reflector:

A motion was made by Scott, VE1QD, seconded by Fred, VE1FA, motion passed.

6. Correspondence:

Andy Filmore MP visited Field Day last June and sent a Certificate of Achievement for finishing 1st in Canada and 8th overall in our class for Field Day 2020.

Banks statements were received from Scotia Bank.

The current month QST magazine was received and is in the rack in the office.

7. President's Report:

Approval and the order of a new 30 foot foldover tower for the satellite antennas that were at St Andrews is in the works. Delivery is expected by the end of March with installation to follow. There will also be an HF vertical antenna installed on the top of the tower.

The Cowie Hill repeater site will undergo some antenna replacement and additions this year. A larger building to house the equipment and a location closer to the tower is being investigated. Keep an eye on the Reflector and the HARC website for other items.

The following have passed the Advanced Class exam this past education training period, Tim Delaney, Don Trotter, Greg Estabrooks, Gordon Young, Gary Bugden, Ray Armstrong, Ralph Rosere, David Lewis, Cam Farnell, and Fraser McDougall. A round of applause followed to celebrate and acknowledge their achievement!

There will be a Ham Breakfast this coming Saturday the 22nd at the Young Street Steak and Stein at 10 am. See you there. So far 14 have indicated they will attend.

The Hobby Show will be at Shearwater on the 18th and 19th of April, contact Craig, VE1JMA.

There will be a Ham Radio demonstration here at Station 50 with the Girl Guides with Dick, VE1AI, Fraser, VE1WO and Scott, VE1QD on February 22nd at 2 pm.

8. Treasurer's Report:

Bill, VA1ALW gave a detailed report of the monthly income and expenses. A motion was made by Bill, VE1MR to accept the report, Helen, VE1YL seconded the motion, motion carried.

9. Other Executive Reports:

10. Committee, Event and Special Projects Reports:

1. Membership Report - From Jim, VE1PPA, reported by Brian, VA1CC for 2020 there are 43 Full, 3 Associate, 4 Life and 18 associate (complimentary) members for a total of 68 members. Compared to last year at this time membership is down 17 members, please send in dues.

2. SAR/EMO - Dave George, VE1AJP was absent, George, VE1CAW reported there was a call received regarding a lost lady, she was found..

3. Station Manager Report - Don, VE1DTR absent due to illness, VE1GFX Greg. Technical committee member reported that the Remote Rig is up and running. A reminder that an Advanced class license will be required to operate the remote station. Sign-in and sign up for use protocols are being developed. Stay tuned for a forthcoming information session.

The internet service has been upgraded to Eastlink high speed to accommodate the new remote.

4. Other reports

MMA (Maritime Museum of the Atlantic) Dick, VE1AI reported that we are gearing up for Spring Break in March, watch your email for a sign up sheet QSL Bureau, make sure that your address is updated with the Club and Radio Industry of Canada. Remember to contribute \$ to be able to receive your cards. HATS There will be a newsletter in the Reflector. Gary Murphy, VA1GGM was not present.

5. Neil VE1YZ gave a report on the area repeaters VE1PKT (1983) and VE1CDN (1985), linking operations and the tie to the NSARA repeaters. The influx of the Yaesu promoted Fusion products has had an impact on repeater activity.

6. Fred, VE1FA shared information regarding an Islands on the Air event, IOTA International competition sponsored by the Radio Society of Great Britain, RSGB, coming up this July 22-23. In the past, the NS competition team has usually placed first in North America operating from Bon Portage. Though, due to rising fees, two other locations are being reviewed. The sites being considered are Long Island and Little Tancook Island at approximately ½ the cost. The participating operators share in the cost. The group arrives at the site usually 2 days in advance to get the equipment to the site, boat, ferry, or other, and set up antennas and two operating positions in typically a rented cottage. Estimated costs are \$250/person for the Long Island site and \$350/person for Little Tancook. Sounds like a great experience! Contact Fred if you are interested.

7. Sheldon, VE1GPY gave a summary report for Parks on the Air that was in the February Reflector. Over 24,000 QSO's were logged, and 2000 awards available via download for the Activators and Chasers.

11. Old Business:

1. Digital Repeater: Jason reported that the digital repeater is operational and awaiting better weather for antenna work.

2. Flea Market Chair/Field Day Chair: The Lower Sackville site has been secured. Table cost is \$10 and includes the seller's entry fee. John, VE1JMB with assistants will be leading the effort, please contact him to volunteer for ticket sales, security, table set-up, and 50/50 draw. Thanks John!

12. Round Table - Member News: the brief sharing of important personal news:

Field Day sites discussion and radio check out to be done.

13. 50:50 Draw: \$32.00 is the amount tonight, Greg, VE1GFX was the winner!

14. Motion for Adjournment: Bill, VE1MR, motioned, meeting adjourned 2030 hours.

Respectfully submitted by Roger Stein, VA1RST, HARC Secretary