

HALIFAX AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Monthly Meeting - 20th September 2017
Minutes

The September monthly meeting of the Halifax Amateur Radio Club was declared open at 20:07 hrs with Brian (VE1AZV) in the chair.

Motion to approve the Agenda – moved by Scott (VE1QD); seconded by David (VE1IIF); carried.

Self introductions: There were 35 members present.

Silent Keys: Brian reported the following silent keys for the period May 18th to September 20th 2017.

Nelson Blythe Pert	VE1BTV	Fredericton NB	Sep. 18th, 2017
George Ernest MacKay	VA1CBG	Stellarton NS	Sep. 15th, 2017
Inglis Horton MacAulay	VE1MV	Glace Bay NS	Sep. 3rd, 2017
John Leo Keating	VE1JLK	Pleasantfield NS	Aug.29th, 2017
John Gareth Greenslade	VE9SG	Sackville NB	Aug.15th, 2017
Roy George White	VO1RW	Mount Pearl NL	Aug.15th, 2017
Colin M. Curleigh	VE1CMC	Parrsboro NS	Aug. 9th, 2017
Douglas William Adams	VE1DWA	Bible Hill NS	Aug.8th, 2017
Gilbert Linwood "Lin" Titus	VE9FX	Fredericton NB	Jul.27th, 2017
Robert Gary Bartlett	VE1RGB	Wellington NS	Jul.22nd, 2017
Thomas Walter Weaver	VE9TOM	Moncton NB	Jul.16th, 2017
Berwyn Andrews "Skip" Goudey	VE1BG	Arcadia NS	Jul. 13th, 2017
Bryan Rodney Martin	VE9BRY	Sainte-Anne-de- Madawaska NB	Jun.21st, 2017
Dale Harry Wing	KB1KIH	Robbinston ME	Jun.14th, 2017

Motion to approve the minutes of the June monthly meeting as published in the HARC *Reflector* was made by Dick (VE1AI); seconded by Fred (VE1FA); carried.

President's Report:

- **HARC Move** – Brian reported on the upcoming move of the Club from the current St. Andrew's Centre. He indicated that in speaking with Barry Manual (HRM – EMO) today, he is optimistic that our move to #50 Fire Station on Hammonds Plains Rd is looking positive and that we will have access to the second floor. Brian further indicated that he has visited the site and checked for possible radio interference in the area and there appears not to be any. Once we have approval by the Fire Chief, and it is determined that HRM owns the land, Barry will move forward with putting in a tower base for us. Brian indicated that Bill (VE1MR) is organizing the removal of our tower and beam that is located here at St. Andrews, and that will take place at some point in October. However, we will leave the vertical antenna in place so we will continue to have HF capability from the site until the final move has been completed. This is critical as our Club station serves as the backup communications site for the EMO in HRM.
- **Dominica Support** – Brian indicated that Bill (VE1MR) had received a request from a news organization in Antigua who had lost all contact with Dominica and asked if we could hear anything from them. Bill asked Dick (VE1AI) to see if he could try and make a contact with a Ham in the area. Dick reported that he had been able to talk with a Ham in St. Croix on the hurricane-net frequency who informed him that Dominica had been almost totally destroyed.

Executive Reports:

- **Treasurer's Report** - Jim (VE1JG) presented the Treasurer's report for the period of June, July and August.

He reported that there was an opening bank balance for 1 June 2017 was \$7,516.38. Total income for the month of June was \$2,126.09 with expenses of \$ 2,042.22. Our cash position at the end of the month of June was \$7,300.25.

There was an opening bank balance for 1 July 2017 was \$7,300.25. Total income for the month of July was \$2221.35 with expenses of \$ 1,440.17. Our cash position at the end of the month of July was \$6,082.43, and our bank balance was \$6,316.43.

There was an opening bank balance for 1 August 2017 was 6,316.43. Total income for the month of August was \$291.50 with expenses of \$ 1,977.24. Our cash position at the end of the month of August was \$4,396.69.

A copy of the full report is appended to the official hard copy of these minutes.

Motion to approve the June, July and August reports of the Treasurer – Moved by Jim (VE1JG); seconded by Scott (VE1QD); carried.

- **1st Vice-President Report** (Don – VE1DTR) – Don had nothing to report.
- **Station Manager Report** (Alex – VE1RUS) – Alex was unable to attend but forwarded the following report:

1. Connectors for the defective coax cables have been purchased - 20pc - Amphenol 083-1SP-15RFX - \$41.792 CAD total. Invoice is attached. We now need to arrange a time for a cable party to put these new connectors on any defective coax.
2. A surplus equipment list has been compiled, but it requires the assessment of all of the items before publishing the list; this is planned to be done on October 4.
3. HARC vertical – there has been no progress on getting this antenna repaired and the project is on hold.
4. A HARC equipment list has been compiled (at least for the equipment located at St Andrews), but revision is required.

On a personal note, Alex indicated that:

1. He confirms that he would like to purchase the surplus rotator that is available for \$100;
2. He also indicated that he would like purchase the Kenwood TS570 that was donated recently, if the club can put it on hold for him. He will make an offer later. Both pieces of equipment are for use at the arctic radio club on Ellesmere Island in Nunavut, NA-008.

Committee/Project Reports:

- **Search & Rescue/EMO** (David – VE1AJP) – EMO – David reported on the recent loss of phone and internet service in Atlantic Canada. It appears that there had been separate cuts through the two fibre-optic cables supplying the east coast. A number of local Hams were on standby but because the system started to come back on line within several hours, there was no callout. As far as Search and Rescue is concerned, Dave reported a quiet summer. There had unfortunately been one major week-long search for a lost individual who was never found.
- **Halifax Emergency Telecommunication Services (HATS)** – Scott (VE1QD) reported that there will be an introductory HATS meeting in the Halifax Club meeting room at 7pm on Tuesday October 3rd to do some team building. Scott also reported that there are now two turn-key “go kits” that HATS has purchased for emergency communication.

- **Membership** (Howard – VE1DHD) – Howard reported that the total Club membership as of this evening is 152 members with four Life, 118 Full, and 30 Associate members, and that we have 54 HARC members who are also members of RAC.
- **Brit Fader Scholarship Announcement** (Howard – VE1DHD) – Howard reported that the 2017 Brit Fader Scholarship had been awarded to Bram Paterson (VA2XE). He outlined Bram's accomplishments and referred members to the HARC website for details.
- **Nominating Committee update** (Scott – VE1QD) – Scott reported that members of the committee are Bill (VE1MR) and Dick (VE1AI), with himself as Chair. He reported that all of the main committee chair positions have been filled including field day chair, flea market chair and basic course coordinator. In addition, nominations have been confirmed for all of the Executive positions with the exception of President. All current members of the executive will be returning with the exception of the Secretary and Second-VP; Arron Bradley (VA1ARM) has agreed to let his name stand for secretary and Gary Murphy (VA1GGM) has agreed to let his name stand for second-VP. Concerning the President, Brian has agreed to continue on if we can not find anyone to replace him. Finally, Scott pointed out that we also need to have an auditor assigned to review the 2017 books.
- **Field Day Report** (Don – VE1DTR) - Don provided an overview of our 2017 Field Day operation. Don indicated that he came on board as Field Day Chair only twenty days prior to the event. He reported that a number of technical difficulties had been identified in the post field-day review. The overall score (approximately 5500) was helped immensely by the large number of bonus points that we made. Don indicated that he has an extensive Field Day report that will be appended to these minutes.

Old Business:

- **Scouts Jamboree Report** (Tom VE1GTC) - Tom reported on the July Jamboree where the Halifax Club supplied radios and antennae, as well as technical support.
- **St. Andrew's Move / New Club Location Report** (Brian – VE1AZV) – see President's Report above.

New Business:

- **Tube Bank** – Brian informed the meeting that Dallas Hubley, the manager of our Tube Bank, had recently passed away, so the tube bank will now have to find a new home. Doug (VE1LDL) reported that the "Vintage Radio Club" is willing to take the tubes off our hands. Brian indicated that he will get in touch with Tom Gaum (VE1BMJ) to see if he will assist the Club in finding a home for the tubes.
- **Special Halifax Explosion Callsign (CK100VDA)** - Fred (VE1FA) reported that the Club has been given this special callsign to use for nine days around the 100th anniversary date of the Great Halifax Explosion that occurred at 9:05 am on December 6th 1917. Fred went over the history of the disaster (see the HARC website for details) and outlined the rules around the use of the special callsign by HARC members. He referred members to visit the HARC website for details on signing up for an operating day and time.
- **Nova Scotia Amateur Radio Association (NSARA) membership dues collection** – Howard (VE1DHD) reported that the Executive had begun to discuss HARC finances in the spring and he indicated that many HARC members appear to be unaware that the 2013 HARC membership fee increase of \$5 was not really a HARC membership fee increase (our membership continues to be \$25), but rather represented the agreement by HARC to enrol each full HARC member in the Nova Scotia Amateur Radio Association (NSARA). Given that the Club will no longer be publishing a callbook (a major source of Club revenue in the past) it was agreed to look

carefully at the arrangement that we had undertaken with NSARA. When the requested information was finally received from NSARA, the HARC executive determined that the agreement should be terminated and Howard brought forward the following motion to the Club:

MOTION: that the Halifax Amateur Radio Club cease collecting membership dues from all full HARC members on behalf of NSARA but consider making an annual financial contribution to NSARA – moved by Howard and seconded by Jim (VE1JG). After a lengthy discussion, the Chairman called the motion and on a show of hands, 16 members approved, 5 opposed and there were 12 abstentions; carried.

Ticket Draws: The winner of the \$31.50 50:50 draw was Aaron (VA1ARN)

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn was made by Ian (VE1ARJ) at 21:59.