

HALIFAX AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Monthly Club Meeting – 15 March 2017
Minutes

The March monthly meeting of the Halifax Amateur Radio Club was declared open at 20:00 hrs with Brian VE1AZV in the Chair

Self Introductions: There were 32 members present.

Motion to approve the agenda – moved by Craig (VE1JMA) seconded by Tom (VE1GTC); carried.

Report of any Silent keys: Brian reported the following silent keys for January, February and March:

<u>Norman David Budd</u>	VE1BQE	Miramichi NB	Mar.12th,2017
<u>George "Ernie" Blanchard</u>	VE9AAG	Quispamsis NB	Mar.4th, 2017
<u>Rudolph "Rudi" Saueracker</u>	VE9RHS	Dieppe NB	Mar.3rd, 2017
<u>Daniel Raymond McIsaac</u>	VE1CBL	Glace Bay NS	Feb.26th, 2017
<u>Nicholas Harley Whidden</u>	VE1NW	Bible Hill NS	Feb.20th,2017
<u>Brian Edward Shanks</u>	VE9BES	Quispamsis NB	Feb.12th, 2017
<u>Robert Harold Petitpas</u> (Member HARC)	VE1RHP	Hubley NS	Feb.11th,2017
<u>Donald C. Bower</u> (Life Member HARC)	VE1AMC	Ohio NS	Jan.29th, 2017
<u>Richard Ernest Steeves</u>	VE1XL	Weldon NB	Jan.28th, 2017
<u>James William "Bill" McKnight</u>	VE1WMC	Milton NS	Jan. 20th, 2017

Motion to approval the January monthly meeting minutes as published in the HARC Reflector was made by Don (VE1DTR); seconded by Doug (VE1LDL) Carried

Executive Reports:

President's Report: Brian reported on the activity at the Wireless Room of the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic, indicating that he, Terry (VE1TRB), Dave (VE1DDC), Dick (VE1AI) and Corey (VA1PAX) from the museum staff, had done some antenna repair work on the vertical. He also indicated that there has been a great deal of traffic through the Wireless Room as a result of this being spring break for schools. Dick (VE1AI) informed the meeting that they are in need of additional volunteers to assist at the museum and anyone interested should contact Dick. He also showed the membership the new certificate that has been drawn up for those who visit the display and demonstrate CW proficiency. Feedback that the museum has received indicates that the most popular display is the Wireless Room.

Treasures report: In the absence of Jim (VE1JG), and because the February monthly meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather, Brian and Howard reported the Club financials for both the month of January and February 2017.

January 2017: There was an opening bank balance for 1 Jan 17 of \$6411.64. We had an income of \$1533.35 and expenses of \$926.83. The bank balance as of 31 Jan 17 was \$7157.89 but, with two outstanding cheques totalling \$190.06 gave us a cash position of \$6967.83.

Motion to approve the January report of the Treasurer - Moved by Howard
Seconded by: Don (VE1DTR) Carried

February 2017: There was an opening bank balance for 1 February 2017 of \$7,157.89. We had an income of \$325.00 and expenses of \$845.95. The bank balance as of 28 February 2017 was \$6446.88 and there were no outstanding cheques, therefore our cash position at the end of the month of February was \$6,446.88.

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

Motion to approve the February report of the Treasurer - Moved by Brian; Seconded by: Dick (VE1AI) Carried

Committee/Project Reports:

- **Basic course up-date:** Tom reported that of the twenty-one students in the 2016/2017 class, ten passed, and of those, nine received honours (80%+); the remainder will presumably write at their leisure. Tom is looking at running an advanced course using Skype. The CW course has yet to be finalized but it is likely going to start in April and will be run as a distance education offering. Don (VE1DTR) indicated that there is new software (CW.Com) available to students wishing to learn CW. A sign-up sheet was passed around for all who were interested.
- **QSL Bureau** – Tom (VE1GTC) reminded members that all VE1, VA1 and VE0 cards should be given straight to him and NOT put in the mail. He also reminded members that if they do not want to receive cards they should let him know so he will not waste time sorting and sending them out.
- **Brit Fader Scholarship 2017** – Howard reported that announcements of the 2017 award have been sent out to Maritime Clubs and an advertisement appeared in the March/April edition of TCA. To date, there have been no applications received.
- **Ham Breakfast** – Amanda reported that approximately 25 people had attended and a good time was had by all.
- **Search and Rescue/EMO** – David (VE1AJP) reported that there have been relatively few S&R calls this winter. He also reported that there has been an issue with the septic system at the S&R Base that will have to be fixed in the spring.

- **Membership** – Howard indicated that there were 4 Life; 97 Full; and 28 Associate members for a total of 129 members so far in 2017.
- **Flea Market** – Brian indicated that we need a volunteer to coordinate the Flea Market that will take place in the St. Andrew’s Centre on Saturday June 3rd. He asked that anyone who would be interested in taking on this leadership role should contact him as soon as possible.
- **Field Day** – Brian reported that in 2017 we will be operating F-class from the St. Andrew’s Community Centre, and we are still looking for someone to coordinate this event. Dick (VE1AI) volunteered to coordinate the CW operation; a coordinator for the SSB team is also needed, as well as an overall coordinator. It was also suggested that we contact Barry Manuel before he retires to arrange for backup generators from EMO.
- **Shearwater Hobby Show** – Craig reported that the Club will be putting on a display at the hobby show over the weekend of April 8/9 at the Shearwater air base Sea King Club, and he and Doug (VE1LDL) would like to have assistance in setting up and demonstrating several aspects of our hobby.

Old Business:

- **St Andrews move** – Brian indicated that the current information that is available to the Club has the St. Andrews Centre being torn down at some point in 2018 and a new facility will be built. Given the importance of the HARC as communication backup for HRM-EMO, the city has agreed to provide the Club with backup locations for our radio station (likely on Cowie Hill) as well as meeting facilities while the new facility is being constructed.
- **Proposed Membership Fee Increase for 2018** – Brian indicated that our By Laws require that membership fee increases must come to the Annual General Meeting, so discussion was postponed to November.

4.0

MEMBERSHIP FEES

4.1

The annual membership dues for each class of membership shall be determined at the annual general meeting.

However, Brian indicated that since the Club will no longer be producing a Callbook, there is a need for the Club to come up with some other means of raising funds.

Dick suggested that HARC undertake to collect RAC membership fees on behalf of RAC. Howard reported that there are currently 51 RAC members in our Club. This will be brought forward to the Executive for discussion.

New Business:

- **2017 Nominating Committee Election** – Brian indicated that the 2017 Nominating Committee will consist of Scott (VE1QD) chair; Bill (VE1MR) and Dick (VE1AI). The composition was moved by Don (VE1DTR) and seconded by Doug (VE1LDL). Carried.
- **2017 Scout Jamboree Request for Help** – Doug (VE1LDL) reported that Bill (VE1MR) has been talking with Andy Dunn CG3XAD at Scouts Canada who is coordinating the event for Scouts Canada. Andy is looking to get a special callsign, possibly CJ13NS for July 15 to 22nd; the Jamboree will be held at Camp Nedoowaw. It will be important for HARC to identify someone to officially coordinate with Scout Canada. Andy would like HARC to provide equipment (radios and antennae) for HF and VHF / IRLP.

Round Table: Alex (VE1RUS) informed the membership that he has replaced two of the computers in the Club station with versions that are running Windows 7; he also indicated that the dipole antenna on the tower needs some work.

Dick suggested that because the HARC station is the backup for HRM-EMO, the Club should set up a Packet Station in the Club Radio room that is WinLink-compatible with the EMO portable Packet Stations. It was suggested that the Executive look into this in collaboration with EMO.

Ticket draws:

Door Prize - Alex (VE1RUS) (\$10 gift card)
50/50 Draw - Alistair (VE1PAB) (\$23.00)

Adjournment: On a motion by Don (VE1DTR) the meeting adjourned at 21:17

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Howard Dickson (VE1DHD) on 16 March 2017