

Minutes Kings County Amateur Radio Club October 3rd 2020

Present: Fred VE1FA, Helen VA1YL, Wayne VE1BAB, Bob VE1RSM, Lysle, VE1BVD, Al VO1NO, Art VE1GG, Jeff VE1XTC, Richard, VE1RPX

Missing

Greg VE1HGR, Kevin VE1BAK, Barry VE1QY, Larry Silver VE1LSE, Robert VE1CSE,

Meeting started at 2:09 PM in the Port Williams Park.

Wayne started it. We had a February challenge. Plaques. We have new members who got the on-line program. Richard VE1RPX told us how he got started in the class. He retired in January from Michelin. Jeff VE1XTC. The radio class started in March & Jeff studied and took the test on July 19th. We all introduced us.

February Challenge: We got through it & Bob created the certificates.

Field Day at home & **Canada Day** at Fred & Helen's. Bob, Wayne, Helen & Fred. And Lysle came over too.

\$\$ We got reinstated Registry Joint Stock Company for the \$2000 from Kings County.. We are insured by the RAC insurance.

Minutes from March 2020. Wayne read them. VE1RSM voted & Al VO1NO seconded the minutes from March.

2 Meter net. On the repeater. Robert VE1CSE is the net controller.

Treasurer Report

Bank Balance Oct 6th. \$4737.81 in our bank account. \$100 donation. Payed Lysle \$1585.05 as of August 19th. Art moved & Bob seconded it. 21 members. 19 paid & one is getting a free one. Licences get their member for the year when they take the test. After July get member for the next year.

Lysle has been doing stuff with the Repeater. County gave us money. Yaesu gave us \$700 US. Lorne Anderson helped us. Some hardware. Work on the tower. Echolink & IRLP. Quite an ambitious power. Digital repeater is up at the site. Fedex didn't charge us. Lysle got a new station computer for the site. Repeater arrived. VHF frequency. Lorne got us that. A month programmed. Repeater is up at the site. The internet needs to be Country Site. Lysle bought a digital radio. When it gets set up the tower work. The analysis has been tried on the antenna. Bill VE1MR says the cable will work for 40 years. SWR tests it goes well. The Cross Country owns the property so they don't want us to go up the tower. The tower needs a light. We have to party up the Digital Repeater from someplace else. Lorne can do it from Parsborough. Echolink hardware is not available. \$1000 dollars can be able to get Echolink. The County needs to have how our money spends. We need to share our money with Canning. Fred will call Bill

VE1MR about the HARC tower people. Lysle should put together & publish it. \$375 US is less than \$675 Canadian. But the BC person can't sell us the Canadian Echolink.

Net Control Robert is the Net control. He used to be from Toronto. When he was in Toronto, he used to have over 100 people.

EMO Al gave a report on the EMO.

Al VO1NO gave a short report on EMO activities over the past several months. The Regional Emergency Management Planning Committee continued to meet throughout the pandemic, albeit virtually. The Wildfire Preparedness and Response Plan has been forwarded for approval at the municipal level. A short in-person meeting was held at the Emergency Coordination Center (ECC) in September to ensure that the county was ready to respond to a hurricane emergency. The lack of antennas for the communications room at the ECC has been pointed out to the Regional Emergency Management Coordinator on numerous occasions.

Band Planning

Al gave an update on band planning at both the national and international level. The RAC 2M band plan has been approved with only one small change from the draft published in TCA Magazine - the 2M AM lobby wanted a 2M AM frequency included in the plan! Work continues on updating the 6M band plan.

At the IARU level (International Amateur Radio Union), the Region 2 band plan has been updated and should be promulgated in the near future. The changes include updated wording so that national regulators understand that deviation from the plan is permitted if required, and the inclusion of a satellite downlink sub-band on 15M, harmonizing that sub-band with Regions 1 and 3.

Al is also busy with a reorganization of the HF digital mode sub-bands. Due to the explosive growth of modes such as FT-8, the digital frequencies have become very congested. An ad hoc working group was formed to investigate options to reduce this congestion. Several interim solutions have been proposed to, and adopted by, Joe Taylor's software development team. Longer term solutions are in development.

Finally, Al is the IARU Region 1 representative on the VHF+ Committee, which is investigating the use of the Amateur bands above 144 MHz, and dealing with threats to them. It is recognized that we may eventually have to share or even give up some spectrum. The committee is trying to determine how to best do this without adversely affecting Amateur Radio.

Correspondence Winter Canada Contest . We got the Nova Scotia contest prize. We got the Bob's call sign in stead of VE1RAC.

The Fire Hall is not open to us.

VE1AEM Moe has getting rid of his radio stuff. His station has lots of stuff.

Wayne VE1BAB stepped down & passed the top of The club to Lysle.

Wayne has got interested in the club stuff from back in the days. Lysle will pass it to the new person Robert who does the net.

New Business

Wayne has been talking to Port Williams to see if we can set up a radio station.

The meeting ended at 3:35 PM.