

Minutes Kings County Amateur Radio Club March 11th 2021 2 PM

Present: Al VO1NO, Helen VA1YL, Lysle VE1BZE, Wayne VE1BAB, Fred VE1FA, Kevin VE1BAK, Scot VE1WTF, Bob VE1RSM, Greg VE1HGR, Richard VE1RP

Wayne – VE1BAB – Past President presided over the meeting.

Meeting started at Port Williams Park, 2 PM. We have 14 paid up members and 2 free members. Phil Hopkins – made a \$1000 donation to the club.

Bob VE1RSM, motioned the club to extend an honorary membership to Phil Hopkins. Greg VE1HGR seconded. All voted in-favour, Carried.

Treasurer Report - ART was not there. \$4758.91

Wayne submitted the paperwork and \$300 payment for RAC Insurance.

He completed the paperwork required to support the Municipal Grant the club received and sent it to them, and he completed and sent the payment to Register Joint Stocks Canada.

Expenses related to the Repeater upgrade

hardware related to the Fusion repeater.....\$1,585.05

Hardware related to the Echolink project....\$1,164.16

Equipment donations received.....\$2,620

Hours of labour provided by club members

and UHF/VHF Technician.....84.5 hours @ \$20 per hour...\$1,690

Total project value.....\$7059.21

Minutes from January 2021.

Fred moved the Minutes be approved. Al seconded. All in favour, Carried.

Al VO1NO is the newly appointed Atlantic Director for RAC. Al was selected as the RAC Amateur of the year 2020.

EMO Al indicated one person is taking the Emergency Course. Meeting next week will come up for Al will send me a report.

Lysle – From the repeater committee-

- Lorne VE1BXK and Brad VE1ZX may be coming down this spring. Lorne has discovered a de-sensitizing issue between the digital and analogue repeaters

and has 2 filters- that he tuned to address this issue. He has indicated a willingness to deliver and install them.

- Canning, Kentville, Port Williams and Greenwich Fire Departments have been up on the tower for 2 months now.
- The CVFD tower may need to be replaced- depending on an engineers report on it's safety for the climbing team. The engineer has observed a "twist" in the tower during a preliminary inspection from the ground.
- The cost of a new tower is to be determined due to lack of critical details- including a possible new tower height.
- The IRLP/Echolink node and Fusion repeater install is complete.
- Kings County still has it's UHF repeater in the building but is not using it. It should be de-commissioned. We may be able to use the UHF antenna for our MAVCOM UHF link radio. (Note: Lysle has checked this and it did not improve the MAVCOM link.)
- CVFD has hired Reg MacDonald VE1RGM to act as an intermediary between themselves and the tower company.

The Repeater Project is almost done. The 220 link is down due to bad COAX. Several photographs of the tower and antennas have been taken in prep for future repairs.

New Topic:

We discussed the on-going issue between Robert VE1CSE and Derek VE1WX. Bob and Al volunteered to meet with each of them individually.

Field Day – Bob VE1RSM is coordinator for Field Day 2021. He will contact ARRL to see if there are COVID restrictions in place. Al indicated that Home Stations (1D) are restricted to 150 Watts.

Club Leadership:

Bob VE1RSM – volunteered and was appointed to fill the President position, for a period not longer than 2 years.

Scot VE1WTF – appointed as Vice President.

Helen VA1YL – volunteered to remain on as Secretary

Art VE1GG – Volunteered to remain on as Treasurer

Al VO1NO motioned Bob, Scot, Art, Helen for these positions

Fred VE1FA seconded them.

Everyone voted, Carried.

Wayne: Presented the Kings County Amateur Radio of the Year plaque to:

Lysle VE1BZE. Lysle received the plaque for the many hours and hard work he has put into the upgrade to our repeater site. Bringing online a new Digital Repeater and adding the Echolink and IRLP capabilities to our repeater.

(Comment: Lysle is preparing a write up on the new capabilities of our new repeater upgrade and will be placed on our Web Page. Folks can now via IRPL call nodes around the world to have DX type communications with other countries. Node numbers can be found at www.irlp.net . Go to Active Node Status tab, then go to the Up-to-date List in PDF format.)

3:30 Greg - VE1HGR motioned the meeting be adjourned

Website:. If you need to get things on Website send them to Bob VE1RSM.

We plan to hold the next meeting and future meeting outside in Port Williams Park, weather permitting.

Lysle wants to take hams to his cabin on Gaspereau Lake.