



Executive Minutes Sept 22, 2019

Via telephone conference bridge

**In attendance:**

Troy Michel VA6TNA President, John Allen VA6SJA Secretary, Perry Afaganis VA6PTA Treasurer, Garry VE6CIA Jacobs VE6CIA Membership Coordinator, Brian Crissal VE6BCA Director, Paul Wilson VA6PW Director

**Call to Order**

President Troy called the meeting to order at 14:19.

**Membership**

Garry VE6CIA reported that there are 55 paid up members, 1 executive member renewal has been due since June.

**Repeaters**

**Central**

VE6CIA reported that VE6REP is working well to the best of his knowledge. President Troy asked whether the problem that existed when VE6REP was connected to VE6OLS had been resolved. The exact nature of that problem will have to be re-identified by finding and reviewing the email that President Troy had sent. The Limestone Repeater is also working well.

**North**

We had wondered if Jim Camp VE6JC would be our northern representative, but we have had no need for a representative's services yet.

Brian VE6BCA reported that the VE6NHB repeater system has been working fine (He has been using it, at least every Wednesday). The IRLP link to Brian's brother's house is also working fine, after dealing with a few startup issues.

There have been enquiries about some links via our SARA Executive email service.

Brian VE6BCA stated that a repeater at Innisfree will need an intermediate hop from Edmonton. An interesting fact is that the day that the Innisfree repeater was first installed, propagation conditions were such that it was worked with a handheld from the Boston Pizza parking lot in Edmonton, this was only observed once.

## **South**

Doug VE6CID is the representative for the south, he is not present for this meeting. Garry VE6CIA reported that the UHF repeater at VE6OIL (Calgary) has been off for quite some time. Its current status is unknown. Brian VE6BCA reported that the 2-meter side is working well. And the trunking from Edmonton to Calgary is working.

## **Old Business:**

No old business was discussed.

## **New Business**

**Flea Market** – Doug VE6CID is handling it. He will ask for help as required. We will not be able to set up PayPal pre-payment for tables this year. President hopes that there will be a few extra hands to help set up. There will be a SARA table at the Flea Market. Garry will man it and we will solicit memberships there.

Doug is organizing some presentations, at least one about the SARA system.

We will present associate memberships to the youngest ham and the most recently licenced ham at the flea market. Brian VE6BCA pointed out that presenting Full Memberships would not be in accordance with our existing bylaws. Garry VE6CIA will arrange for a few blank certificates of associate memberships.

John VA6SJA will distribute the table reservations that he will have received to the executive in case he cannot be at the Flea Market.

**Executive Members** – We have enough executive members so that we as an executive do not have to appoint more to meet the requirements of our bylaws. Directors including executive members will be elected at the AGM.

**Queries through SARA Executive Email** - The person with the most knowledge will respond to these queries. If the query is not answered within one week, the President will respond, stating that it will be put on the agenda of the next meeting.

**Social Media Page (i.e., Facebook)** – We would need a person knowledgeable about SARA to run it if we had it. CAARC has a Facebook page that is not available to the general public, but is useful for notices. etc. Our web page contains mailing lists. Garry VE6CIA does not see the need for a social media presence at this time.

**SARA website** - Garry VE6CIA is taking care of the SARA website. Past President Ray VE6RHS did an excellent job and kept it running smoothly. Garry VE6CIA has been asking Ray, who is a generous troubleshooter, for a lot of help. The web site was formerly on Past President Ray's server, it is now on Web Hosting Canada cPanel.

We don't know what the costs are for this site, as Ray is also taking care of the bills for the web site and Treasurer Perry has seen no bills.

Social media would not replace the need for an internet web page.

**Mailbox** - Treasurer Perry wonders if the mailbox is being emptied regularly. He has not seen bank statements for 8 or 9 months. We need to regularly clear the mailbox. We hope to catch up at the fall meeting at the SARA Flea Market on October 19.

**New SARALink Web Server** - Carry reported that Doug VE6CID has proposed that we change to using a hosting service by Wild Apricot, which is used by CARA. It is very simple to use, we don't know if it supports mailing lists and would cost \$40 a month, Brian VE6BCA says that this expense would be out of our league. Garry VE6CIA calculates that 57 members bring in \$1425 of annual fees versus a projected cost of \$480. The biggest cost is internet access and wear and tear on servers. The cost of the domain name is insignificant. Getting a static IP address would cost \$100 a month but it may be possible to use a dynamic address.

Treasurer Perry will ask Past President Ray to tell us the current costs of running our web site. It does not seem fair to depend on Ray for this as he is no longer in this region.

## **Other business**

Treasurer Perry may not be able to drive to the October Meeting because of pending surgery. He may be able to find a ride, and we will investigate having him participate by phone if he can't be there.

Brian VE6BCA will probably not be able to attend our October meeting, either.

The upcoming meeting will be open to all members.

Curtis VE6AEW/VA6XJ has not had lunch with President Troy yet as suggested in the exchange of emails between them. Garry VE6CIA suggested that Curtis would have only occasional reasons to come as far south as Rocky Mountain House.

This meeting adjourned at 15:05.

John Allen, VA6SJA Secretary