



Executive Minutes April 3rd, 2020

Via telephone conference bridge

Attendees: Troy Michel VA6TNA President, John Allen VA6SJA Secretary, Paul Wilson VA6PW Director, Perry VA6PTA Treasurer, Brian Crisall VE6BCA Director, Garry Jacobs VE6CIA Director and Membership Co-ordinator, Doug Howard VE6CID Director

1. Call to Order

President Troy called the meeting to order at 19:06.

2. Adoption of agenda

Paul VA6PW moved that we adopt the agenda as circulated.

3. Adoption of last meeting's minutes

Brian VE6BCA moved that the minutes of the meeting of February 2, 2020 be adopted as presented. Perry VA6PTA seconded. Carried.

4. Current Mail (snail/email)

a. Doug VE6CID reported that the price of forwarding the mail while keeping the mail box will be \$260.05 for one year and it will take 10 days to come into effect. He will confirm that before paying.

Treasurer Perry has agreed to have the mail forwarded to him. The treasurer's report shows that the cost of the mailbox is \$204.75. Doug VE6CID has paid the post office box bill for the coming year. Although the cost of a mailbox plus forwarding is expensive, it is worth it because of the possibility of missing important mail. Although ATB will probably agree to our using paperless statements, some important government correspondence requires a physical address. Email notice would not be considered secure.

Secretary John moved that we authorize Doug VE6CID to spend \$260.05 to forward the mail coming to our mail box to Treasurer Perry's mailing address for one year. Brian VE6BCA seconded. Carried.

5. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Perry reported that SARA has about \$48,000 available in funds. Assets in the PayPal account, through which many people pay their memberships, are being transferred to our bank accounts regularly, so there is essentially a zero-balance kept in the PayPal account. Transferring money out of a PayPal account has become a simple process.

Interest on our savings account is about \$20 a month. Income consists of interest, memberships and flea market receipts. Perry has only written 4 or 5 cheques for SARA since the start of 2019.

Perry will work on having future reports show each entire line including the money values.

ATB had sent a notice asking if an account would be claimed because there had been no transactions for the previous year. Treasurer Perry has claimed that account on SARA's behalf.

When Perry writes a cheque to reimburse someone, he writes it, signs it and then mails it to Garry VE6CIA who also has signing authority. Garry then mails it on.

Brian VE6BCA moved that the Treasurer's report be adopted as distributed. Paul VA6PW seconded. Carried.

6. Old Business

- a. Reviving SARA's status as an Alberta registered not-for-profit society

Treasurer Perry has been assigned to revive SARA's status as an Alberta registered not-for-profit society after our receipt of the Certificate of Dissolution from the Alberta Registrar of Companies. He now has information about where the correct forms and procedures are on the Government of Alberta web site. As part of the "revival" Perry has to provide the missing annual reports. He now has all the necessary bank statements now to create the associated financial statements and he will ask a couple of his Edmonton neighbours who are SARA members to audit them. Perry will fill in the necessary forms for submittal.

7. Membership Reports / Membership Statu

Membership Co-ordinator Garry reported that there are currently 48 paid-up members. Every month a few fail to renew when their due dates come up. Two new members have joined within the last week.

8. New Business /Things to Discuss

a. Renewing SARA's RAC membership

Treasurer Perry is working on renewing our RAC membership using the SARA membership report from April of last year. RAC asks for mid-year membership for the last year for the renewal of our membership.

b. SARA Annual General Meeting at the CAARC Red Deer Picnic

There was a discussion about the impact on the CAARC Red Deer Picnic scheduled for Fathers' Day by the measures taken to control the COVID-19 virus.

SARA has until the end of its financial year on October 31 to have an Annual General Meeting.

c. Link from CARA to SARA

Doug VE6CID suggests adding a link from the Calgary Amateur Radio Association to a SARA hub, probably at VE6MTR on Limestone Mountain, so that when CARA has an event like The Rally in The Mountains, they could talk from both ends of the event if needed. A code would have to be found. Doug will review the situation with CARA. Doug would provide the necessary transceivers.

d. Resolution of interference on the VE6OIL UHF repeater

Doug VE6CID has investigated and traced the source of interference on 411 MHz which was splashing into the VE6OIL channel. It was from a transmitter whose ownership had been transferred but all the necessary licensing transfers had not been finished.

e. UHF hub transmitter at VE6OIL Calgary

Doug VE6CID has turned off the UHF hub transmitter at VE6OIL until he has time to fix the bad transmitter.

e. Bleed over when connecting to VE6OIL

There is a report of a bleed over which happens 2 times when dialling VE6OIL on to the SARA System. It is heard coming on twice probably the second time from another port. The only other port open is the port for the UHF repeater. Timers on VE6OIL have been disconnected so that it connected or not connected to the SARA network.

f. Frequency Coordination

Before choosing a frequency for a new repeater location, or moving frequencies between different repeaters, any repeater owner should check to see if the proposed frequencies are currently in use within an interfering range, and also get the plans reviewed by the appropriate frequency coordinator.

g. Recording of using the network

We should ask the organizer of any event using the SARA network to send documentation of their use to executive@saralink.ca or a letter to SARA . SARA needs documentation of the occasions that its network is used Emails should originate from other people than Doug VE6CID or Garry VE6CIA. Those fitting into the emergency or exercise category will be used to show CBC that it should waive the rental fee for space in its buildings and on its towers near Edmonton and in Calgary. CBC personnel taking care of this have changed and the process has become more rigorous. We have to prove that we do community support for a minimum of 8 hours in any given year. The CBC may make calls to verify our reports so we have to be able to verify the usage. Even events supporting organizations like the MS society give us practice for setting up and running an actual emergency net.

9. Assignment recap

Doug VE6CID - Mail Forwarding

Garry VE6CIA - ask CAARC about postponing Red Deer Picnic

Doug VE6CID - repair VE6OIL.

Treasurer Perry - work on reviving our status as a registered society.

10. Date and time of next meeting

May 8 at 1900 MDT

11. Adjournment

President Troy adjourned the meeting at 2027 MDT.