



Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors held 1 February, 2014 after SARA fleamarket.

**Members present:** Vice president: Ray Semenoff VE6RHS (as chair); Secretary: Graham Walker VE6GW; Directors: Kiernan Burr VA6IP, Gern Sabourin VE6KG, Bill Guthrie VE6OLD; Past president: Garry Jacobs VE6CIA; and Membership: Tony Toews VE6MVP

**Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 14:40 hours.

**Minutes of 24 November, 2013 and 10 November, 2013 (amended)** had been sent via e-mail. **Moved by Bill VE6OLD and seconded by Graham VE6GW that the minutes be adopted as distributed. Carried.**

## REPORTS

**President:** President Jeff Low VA6JL was unable to make the Flea Market so Ray chaired the meeting.

**Treasurer:** Ken McPherson had resigned (as reported in minutes of 24 November) and Ray undertook to act as interim Treasurer. Garry had subsequently volunteered to be treasurer until the AGM in June. **Moved by Kiernan VA6IP, seconded by Gern VE6KG, that Garry VE6CIA be appointed interim Treasurer for remainder of term. Carried.**

Ray passed onto Garry the sign-on and password for the PayPal account. Tony noted that he gets notifications of changes to account since he processes the memberships. Ray also changed the SARALink e-mail forwarding.

Garry has already transferred all details into Quickbooks and presented the year-end report as of 30 November, 2013 summarized as:

Chequing account	\$13,369.11
Fixed Assets	12,621.67
GIC's	35,000.00
PayPal account	118.28
Total	63,109.06

Gary had prepared the year-end report to include with the annual reporting to province; however as it has to be audited and presented at AGM first, it was agreed to submit the annual reporting immediately after the June AGM.

**Past President:** Gary indicated that Curtis would like to buy one of the four S-Com controllers recently acquired from Three Hills. **Garry VE6CIA moved, seconded by Kiernan VA6IP, that SARA sell to Curtis one of the newly acquired (used) controllers for \$250. Carried.**

**Membership:** Tony will e-mail membership numbers. He also mentioned that he regularly forwards the list of members to the president. For the fleamarket Tony reported receipts of some \$320 for memberships and donations. Graham asked Tony about the e-mail Tony sent regarding the motion made at the AGM. Tony had recalled the motion by Ian for posting the plans for expansion on the SARALink site and brought it to the attention of the exec. Graham suggested posting an update of the system map that Ray provided in 2012 to the executive. Ray will send image to Kiernan and updated map will be posted by end of March.

**Fleamarket Concession:** Bill reported revenues of \$330. His expenses were \$68 plus other costs for ice, etc. Pop and hot dogs had been donated, but there was no need to send out thank you's.

**Secretary:** Graham reported he had prepared thank you letters and certificates in advance for volunteers at the fleamarket and for Alfa and NTF, and was able to hand them all out on site to avoid mailing costs.

**Vice President:** Ray reported 30 tables booked for receipts of \$220 plus whatever came from 50-50 draw, door revenue, etc. Attendance totalled 298. Room cost was \$400 plus GST (Ray had negotiated it down from \$500). We can use Yellowhead Inn again next year, but in future they will not allow hot food so new venue is maybe necessary if we want SARA dogs, etc. Tony, Ray, Bill and others made some suggestions re community halls and other possible venues. It was suggested that if a new site is necessary, search should start by summer.

#### **REPEATERS:**

Ray reported that Jeff had gone down to OIL and changed the link radios so OIL comes through Crossfield to Red Deer. Jeff had tried to increase power at OIL for a direct link but there had been no improvement. Redirecting OIL means linking south of OIL is poor, but apparently Vulcan repeater, AAP, is in sad condition anyway.

Garry said that Jeff would like to use S-Com controllers on the ARES UHF system as a potential backup to MTR. Even when we eventually have MTR set up properly, it is not accessible for seven months of the year, so having Jeff's UHF link in place would provide an alternative in case it went down. **Gern VE6KG moved, seconded by Kiernan VA6IP, that SARA donate two S-Com controllers to CAARC for Red Deer ARES UHF system.** The controllers would be installed at Crossfield and Sundance. **Carried**

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Graham asked about the process for responding to e-mails sent to the SARA info mailbox since there had been some past instances where inquiries were apparently not responded to. Ray is usually able to direct the inquiry to an individual on the executive, but in some instances it is broadcast on hopes someone will pick it up. Ray (as chair) suggested some guidelines be recommended.

**It is suggested that inquiries be separated as; 1. SARA Repeater related and; 2. Non-repeater related. In the first case they would be forwarded to a specific member of the executive (default being the President) and be copied to the rest in cases where there is some uncertainty. For instance - someone in/or around Edmonton would be designated for inquiries North of Red Deer; someone in Central Alberta would handle those originating there; and a Calgary area exec member those south of Red Deer. Messages that are not repeater related would receive a short reply indicating that they are generally outside SARA focus and suggest contacting local Ham club, etc. and provide contact if possible. Responses should be made within a week.**

Graham also mentioned that Rita and Alfa had not received any formal request regarding their participation in the flea market as late as a week before the event. Apparently this had slipped through the cracks since Rita is no longer on the executive and was not in the loop. Also our scheduled 19 January teleconference had been cancelled. **It is recommended that the SARA executive should definitely hold a meeting in the month prior to such events to assign any outstanding responsibilities**

**NEXT MEETING:** non scheduled

The meeting adjourned at 15:34 hours.