

Minutes - Foothills Amateur Radio Society

Meeting, Okotoks Fire Hall #1, Okotoks, September 16 2014

Call to order

1935h by Ray Bourne

Attendees

Stan Clark, Ray Bourne, Dann St-Pierre, Gerry McDonald, Wally Gardiner, Graham Norman, Lee Schneider, Bill Cameron (Guest), Vince d'Eon

Adoption of minutes from prior meetings

- Adoption of June minutes
 - Moved by Graham, 2nd by Wally, all in favour
- Adoption of May minutes
 - Moved by Gerry, 2nd by Dann, all in favour

Treasurer's Report

- New Treasurer Stan Clark
 - Has begun building chart of accounts in a spreadsheet
 - Requires a copy of minutes to show to bank for Signatures
- Stan will begin tracking the CIP and Rotary grant funding separately from main accounts
- Stan has begun getting up to speed on the accounts and status
- Bank account status \$16,272.98 operating chequing account, matching accounting spreadsheet Stan has on hand
 - Current accounting is \$227.50 of withdrawals and \$620 deposits that are not accounted for, Stan will work on this
- Status of Annual Return
 - Not filed, Stan to begin work on it then ask for Auditors
- New Exec still to get signatures on file with the Bank include:
 - Ray Bourne
 - Vince d'Eon

Membership Report

- Richard has advised by Email that he is unavailable, will be deferred until next meeting
- Dann has pending memberships from his notes for induction:
 - Stoney Cruise VA6SRC, Dave Cason VE6DED, Ryan Hogan VE6CPS, Bryce Somers VA6LBS, Dale Munro VE6XA, Gary Ursenbach VE6MU, Robert Weder VE6WDR, Doug Atfield VE6DZZ, Valentino Sarro VE6MB, Mitchell Brown VE6MIT, Vince d'Eon VE6LK, Jason Reeves VE6JPR, Ian Burgess VA6EMS, Lee Schneider VE6ROW, Malen Vidler VE6VID, Travis Simmons VA6TDS, Peter LaGrandeur VA6RPL,

Nicholas Byrne, Doug Howard VE6CID, Gerry MacDonald VE6QLT,
Rick Bradley VA6QL

- Dann makes a motion that, in Richard's absence, that we accept, 2nd by Vince, all in favour

ARES Report

- Been working on digital tracking ideas with VE6AB
- Looking at Vests for ARES
- Reminder of Calgary ARES ICS courses
- Interest in Broadband-Hamnet MESH networking

Communications Director Report

- Power issues at HRA keep occurring, and a sporadic problem sounding like it's off-frequency which has been hard to nail down
 - The one inline fuse is to be replaced
- VA6HRH Project status
 - Antennas are in place, Racks are in place, RF cabling is in place
 - One of the controllers still in the Lab is having an issue with ATS
 - Backup power not in place, Vince to check with AHS
 - Radio and point to point microwave are still being tested/configured
 - Vince and Dann to build an interim report for Rotary about status of this Grant and give back to Wally
- Lease renewals being submitted for HRA
- Lease renewal pending for HRB, need to clarify details of our antennas that need to be documented for lease

Old Business

- Name Tags – Vince
 - No update
- Photo ID Cards – Wally
 - No update
- Solicitation of memberships from former members – Dann/Vince/Richard
 - Dann/Vince to speak to Richard
- Geoff Bawden Visit June 17th Report – Vince
 - About 55 attended
 - Good Press as a result of the event
 - Raised our profile as a Society
- Field Day Report – Vince
 - 12 members and/or guests present
 - erected 3 ele beam
 - worked 300'ish contacts
 - ran full backup power on 3 stations and computers and lighting at Vince's place
 - had lots of fun
 - Next year we are booked at Shepherd Park in High River

New Business

- New Yaesu DR-1 repeater – Dann/Ray
 - Brought forward the topic of new standard for repeater based on the Yaesu DR-1 that supports VHF/UHF on analogue FM Voice, packet and C4FM Digital (not compatible with D-Star)
 - We should purchase one with the idea that we can try it out at some of the sites to determine suitability
 - Dann motioned (2nd by Wally) that we purchase a unit for \$1500 for the purposes outlined above unless we can get a unit at a subsidized or free price
 - This is to be purchased from the Repeater Evergreen budget or Grant funding, to be determined
 - All voted in favour
- Receipting for Memberships – Wally
 - We collect money from all over, but can we just ask members to submit via web-only to reduce handling of paperwork back and forth to various members of Exec
 - Discussion ensued about keeping members up to date on happenings in the club, could be done with posting minutes on fars.ca or emailing them out after the meeting
 - Discussion ensued about using a Membership Management module on the WordPress website to assist with both of these items above
- AGCL Casino Workshop – Wally
 - To happen in November, Wally to attend, others needed
 - We would need to build a spending plan in the event we were given a Casino
 - Wally moves (2nd by Dann) that we do the paperwork to get on the list to be eligible to apply for a Casino
 - All voted in favour
- Budget/Finances/Grant Management – Wally
 - Wally reminds us that because we are using Public Money that our finances have to be up to date and current
- Dann to amend FARSEXEC email distribution list removing John Sehring, adding Stan Clark
- Bill Cameron VE6IL presented a list of equipment for sale as he is moving/downsizing
- Flea Market Oct 18
 - Vince moves, Wally 2nd, we will take out a table from Ken Oelke for club purposes
- Ray brought forward a discussion of working more closely with CARA on sharing projects, sites etc. He will respond to CARA.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 2139h by Vince d'Eon