

BRITISH COLUMBIA AMATEUR RADIO COORDINATION COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: May 15, 2016

at North Shore Emergency Management office, 145 E 14th Street, North Vancouver, BC

- 1. Opening of Meeting:** President Ian Procyk VE7HHS was chair, and called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM. There being 16 clubs and 24 delegates in attendance, the Chair declared a quorum. (The Constitution specifies a quorum as 9 representatives, representing at least 3 clubs)

- 2. Welcoming comments and Introductions:**

Tom Dunn VE7TD, Vice-President of the North Shore Amateur Radio Club, welcomed delegates and guests on behalf of the club. Merrick Grieder VA7VM welcomed everyone on behalf of Dorit Mason VE7SLH, Director of the North Shore Emergency Management.

Introductions

The Chair introduced the BCARCC Directors and Officers in attendance, and listed the names of those unable to attend. The complete list is attached to these Minutes.

All attendees were asked to introduce themselves, giving their name, call-sign and Club.

- 3. AGENDA:** The Agenda was approved as presented.

- 4. MINUTES of 2015 Annual General Meeting:**

In Page 3 of the Minutes, the callsign of Ian Procyk was incorrectly shown as VE7HSS. The correct call is VE7HHS. The Minutes were approved as corrected.

- 5. CORRESPONDENCE**

All correspondence received during the year were related to coordination issues which were referred to Chief Coordinator, George Merchant VE7QH.

- 6. REPORTS**

President Ian advised that most matters will be covered in the following reports. Of note, the AGM this year is being broadcast

- 6A. Chief Coordinator's report**

George Merchant VE7QH reported a small increase in the number of repeaters including 162 simplex nodes registered.

The format of the ARRL Repeater Handbook is being changed, and additional fields being added to collect additional data. A new on-line Request for Coordination form has been created with additional fields as required to meet both BCARCC and ARRL needs. A new database program has been purchased (approved by the Board) to facilitate the conversion of the old database. This is mostly completed.

Receiving current information from repeater operators is a continuing problem, but George expects to make better use of our membership and Directors to provide the information. To reduce the amount of information that the Council maintains, he plans to discontinue the registration of simplex frequencies.

The full report of the Chief Coordinator is attached. George moved that his report be accepted. Carried.

6B. Treasurer's report

Treasurer Brian Summers VE7JKZ presented the financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2015 reporting an operating surplus of \$531, a reduction from last year's \$666. This was mainly caused by a drop in membership income, Brian moved that the report be accepted. Carried.

Treasurer Brian submitted a proposed budget for 2016 in which similar amounts were budgeted for travel expenses and resumption of paid secretarial services, assuming membership fees remained at \$20 per delegate.

Brian moved that the budget be approved. Carried.

Treasurer Brian moved that the membership dues for the current year be set at \$20 per delegate. Carried.

7. BUSINESS ARISING from the minutes of AGM of May, 2015:

a. **Report from Industry Canada:** The Surrey office of Industry Canada Spectrum did not provide an update this year, blaming extra work required for the fire fighting operations in the Ft. McMurray area. They commented verbally that there were no significant issues involving amateur radio in the past year.

b. **Use of 2m Simplex channels for emergency nets** by the Municipal Emergency groups in the Lower Mainland.

Director Mike Watkins VE7WV reported conversations with Al Munnik VA7MP following a review of current practices. He is considering a new plan to replace the original simplex plan prepared for B.C. municipalities by Tom Cox .

8. NEW BUSINESS

a. **Grow-Op interference:** Ian Procyk VE7HHS reported that marijuana grow-ops are creating huge interference problems in radio spectrum. Information will be gathered for presentation to Industry Canada in the coming year.

b. **Hang gliding use of amateur spectrum:** Jack Olsen VE7GDE of Nanaimo reported Hang Gliding groups on Vancouver Island using amateur frequencies such as 144.50 and 146.45 MHz. Possibly, some of this use might be by certified amateurs. He suggested more information will be gathered before filing a complaint with Industry Canada.

c. **Motion to move the fiscal year of the Council from calendar to March 31:**

Secretary Ed Frazer VE7EF reported that the current fiscal year ending December 31 has been the practice since the formation of BCARCC. However, the date of the AGM kept being moved later in the year to facilitate delegate travel from the Interior, currently near the end of May. This creates the problem of the AGM being up to five months after the fiscal year-end, with the result that almost a half-year of expenses are incurred without the budget approval. A year-end of March 31 would appear more appropriate.

Motion by Ed Frazer: that the matter be reviewed by the Policy Committee and the

recommendation be submitted to the Board for approval. Carried.

9. ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

a. Retiring Directors:

Fraser Valley: Nick Gaudiuso VE7TE and
Lower Mainland: Bill Tracey VE7QQ

b. Directors continuing for the second year of their two-year term are:

South Vancouver Island: Ed Gorse VE7ED Capital Region ERCC
Lower Mainland: Mike Watkins VE7WV VECTOR

c. The Chair called for nominations for the following regions:

Greater Vancouver: Two directors required
Tom Dunn VE7TD North Shore ARC and
David Sinclair VA7DRS Port Coquitlam ARC were elected

Vancouver Island North: Russell Storry VA7UQ Powell River ARC declared elected

Fraser Valley: Jay Melvin VE7KC Surrey SEPAR declared elected

South Interior: Al McNeil VA7QQ Penticton ARC declared elected

North Interior: No nominations; declared vacant

10. Closing Remarks - Thanks to host (NSEM and NSARC), and retiring directors

11. Adjournment at 1200

Following the adjournment, the new BOARD OF DIRECTORS met to select 2016-2017 officers.

- President: Ian Procyk VE7HSS (There being no candidate for President, Ian remains President in accordance with bylaw 26-4).
- Vice-President: Ed Gorse VE7ED
- Treasurer: Brian Summers VE7JKZ
- Secretary: Ed Frazer VE7EF
- Chief Coordinator: George Merchant VE7QH
- Policy Chair: Bill Tracey VE7QQ