

BRITISH COLUMBIA AMATEUR RADIO COORDINATION COUNCIL

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of May 30, 2021

Held via Zoom Conference hosted by Ian Procyk VE7HHS

1. Opening of Meeting: President Robert Beaupre VE7RBE (the Chair) called the 27th Annual General Meeting to order at 10:30 AM. There being 17 delegates in attendance, representing 11 clubs, the Chair declared a quorum. (The Bylaws specifies a quorum as 9 delegates, representing at least 3 clubs)

2A. Welcoming comments and Introductions: President Beaupre welcomed delegates and thanked Ian Procyk VE7HHS for organizing the Zoom session.

2B. Introductions: The Chair introduced BCARCC Directors and Officers in attendance followed by the invited guests:

- Keith Witney VE7KW, Director for BC/YT for Radio Amateurs of Canada, who gave a brief report of RAC initiatives, and reported that meetings with ISED headquarters had resumed.
- Bill Gipps VE7XS, RAC Section Manager for B.C.
- Ken Oelke VE6AFO, Alberta-South Repeater Coordinator
- Kenny Richards KU7M, Chair, Western Washington Amateur Repeater Association who will describe their plans to narrowband 2m and 70cm repeaters in Western Washington.

3. AGENDA:

Secretary Ed Frazer VE7EF advised that the proposed Agenda was posted on the BCARCC website, and had been forwarded to all directors, officers and attendees, and asked for any additions. Hearing none, the Secretary moved the Agenda be approved. Carried

4. MINUTES of 2020 Annual General Meeting:

Secretary Ed Frazer VE7EF advised that the draft 2020 AGM Minutes had been posted on the BCARCC website, and asked for any errors or omissions. Hearing none, the Secretary moved the Minutes be approved. Carried

5. CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence received during the year involved coordination issues which were referred to Chief Coordinator, George Merchant VE7GM. Other correspondence was of a general nature, and the callers were referred to RAC and to their local ham clubs.

6. REPORTS

6A. Chief Coordinator's report

George Merchant VE7GM summarized his report which is posted to the BCARCC website. The province now has 456 repeaters that are known. Most new repeaters are digital mode. Fixed Simplex nodes are now being listed on the repeater lists to prevent inadvertent co-channel operation by duplex repeaters.

George thanked the work of Coordinators, Alan Nourse VE7MET of Kelowna, Rob Kuse VE7BKU of North Vancouver, and Al Muir VE7BEU for their assistance. The full report of the Chief Coordinator is attached and is also posted on the BCARCC website. George moved that his report be accepted. Carried.

6B. Treasurer's report

Treasurer Urey Chan VE7URE presented the financial statements for the 12 months ended March 31, 2021, reporting an operating surplus of \$187.28. The surplus was created by a one-time donation from the Point Grey Amateur Radio Club in memory of their President Dave Liddell VE7QR who became a Silent Key in 2020. Revenue otherwise was entirely from membership dues, and reflected the increase of dues from \$20 to \$25 that was approved at the 2020 AGM. Initiatives were undertaken to move the membership renewal and payment process online with the introduction of the PayPal payment system and electronic receipts just before last year's AGM. The Treasurer moved the acceptance of the report: Carried

Treasurer Urey submitted a proposed budget for 2021-22 assuming membership dues of \$25 per delegate, and a balanced budget.

Motion by Urey to approve the Budget: Carried

Motion by Treasurer Urey to continue membership dues at \$25 per delegate for the 2022-23 fiscal year: Carried

Urey also reminded delegates that the BCARCC website now includes a link to PayPal to facilitate electronic payment of fees. The on-line membership renewal form is now an editable PDF file which is easy to fill on-line or after being downloaded.

6C. Report on Website Upgrade:

President Robert described plans to update the BCARCC website and to change server to reduce costs and improve accessibility. This comes with some complexity since the current Coordination Request form is propriety of the current host. The form is entered on-line, and upon submission, the application is forwarded to the database of George, the Chief Coordinator, plus a copy returned to the applicant as confirmation. A new form must be created which is not expected to cause any problems.

A new format for the repeater listings will be easier to update and enable sorting by users in any way required. When completed, the benefits are easier maintenance, easier access at less cost.

7. BUSINESS ARISING from the minutes of AGM of May, 2020: None

8. NEW BUSINESS

8A. Revision to Bylaw 26 to enable Directors to serve unlimited terms.

Whereas under present bylaws, Directors must stand down for at least one year after having served two consecutive two-year terms, and Whereas the Council frequently has difficulty in attracting a sufficient number of qualified and willing volunteers to serve as Directors, it is proposed to delete the requirement to stand down, and to permit directors to serve additional terms. The following amendments were proposed to the Bylaws:

26. (1) The directors shall be elected to serve two-year terms. It being desirable that half of the directors be elected annually, a one-year term can be employed from time-to-time to balance the term overlap.

(2) A director is eligible for re-election upon the expiry of each term.

(3) The election may be by acclimation; otherwise it must be by ballot.

(4) If a successor is not elected, the person previously elected or appointed may continue as director, if willing.

(5) Deleted

Motion by Secretary to approve the change to Bylaw 26; Carried

8B. ISED Canada report on amateur activities:

The report prepared by Kasun Somaatne VA7AGI of the Surrey District Office for Spectrum Regulations is posted to the BCARCC website. The document reports on:

- Canadian Amateur radio satellite
- Revisions to CPC-2-0-03 Radiocommunication and Broadcasting Antenna Systems
- Obscene or profane language over amateur radio frequencies.
- Interference: ISED does not consider conflicts arising from other amateur stations as interference, and requires operators to cooperate to resolve issues. *[Clubs should study the wording of this section and inform their members]*
- Callsigns: ISED confirmed that operators may hold only one two-letter call, and any number of three letter calls. A fee is charged for all calls beyond one.

8C. Presentation by Western Washington Amateur Relay Association:

Kenny Richards KU7M, Chair of Western Washington Amateur Repeater Association presented a summary of their plans to revise the 2m and 70cm band plans to increase the number of available repeater channels in Western Washington. The process will involve splitting 2m 20 kHz channels to 12.5 kHz spacing, thus increasing the number of repeater channels by half. Existing 20 kHz repeaters on 2m will require small frequency shifts to comply with the new band plan. The number of 70cm channels will be doubled by changing the existing 25 kHz channels to 12.5 kHz spacing.

WWARA Coordinator for 2m repeaters, Steve Van Wambeek N9VM, commented that this will be a slow process and that most existing repeaters on 20 kHz spacing will find their changes to be minor. A copy of their paper will be posted on the BCARCC website.

Repeaters in British Columbia within about 100 km of the USA border could be affected by these changes. BCARCC plans further discussion with BC repeater operators and with WWARA prior to amending our existing 2m and 70cm Band Plans.

9. ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

- Vancouver Island South: Brian Leckie VA7BXL of Saanich Emergency Program completed his first two-year term and agreed to stand for a second term. There being no further nominations, Brian was elected unanimously.
- Greater Vancouver: Robert Beaupre VE7RBE of Sun Coast ARC, Gibsons, BC completed his first two-year term and agreed to stand for a second term. There being no further nominations, Robert was elected unanimously.
- North Interior: No nominations;
- Directors continuing for the second year of a two-year term:
 - Fraser Valley: Ian Procyk VE7HHS
 - Greater Vancouver: Urey Chan VE7URE of Richmond ARC
 - : Rick Streifel VE7AA of Delta ARC (See note below)
 - South Interior: Dan Cameron VE7MRP of East Kootenay ARC (Marysville, BC)
 - Vanc. Is. North: Paul Giffen VA7MPG of BC Coast Emergency Comms Ass'n, Nanaimo, BC

Note: Rick Streifel VE7AA has resigned as Director for Greater Vancouver. {Subsequently, the BCARCC Directors appointed member Russell Adams VE7MTU as Director for Greater Vancouver to serve until the next AGM.

10. Closing Remarks - The Chair gave thanks to all for attending, and to Ian Procyk VE7HHS for his administration of the Zoom conference.

11. Adjournment at 11:58 AM

APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS

Following the adjournment, the new BOARD OF DIRECTORS met to select 2021-22 officers.

- President: Robert Beaupre VE7RBE of Sun Coast ARC
- Vice-President:
- Treasurer: Urey Chan VE7URE of Richmond ARC
- Secretary: Ed Frazer VE7EF of North Shore ARC
- Chief Coordinator: George Merchant VE7GM of North Shore ARC
- Policy Chair: [Subsequently, Director Paul Giffen VA7MPG was appointed Policy Chair]

The Zoom meeting ended at 12:10 PM.

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