

## CARA Meeting Minutes - NOVEMBER, 2018

The November 2018 meeting was called to order by our President, Dave / KB3RAN at approximately 7:30 pm. At the opening of the meeting, our President led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

There were 13 members in attendance.

NOVEMBER CARA MEETING ATTENDEES			
Dave / KB3RAN - President	Bill / N3XMZ-Vice President	Dick / W3RBR-Treasurer	Ron / WA4PRR Secretary
Steve / N3IPN - Director	Dennis Dakin / KC3MAA	Dick / AE3DT	Monica / KC3DAS
Bob / KF3AA	Don / KR3A	John / N3EDD	Adrienne / KG5CIL
Peter / KB3SXB			

**ELECTION:** The Slate of Officers was approved by acclamation. They are:

**President:** Dave Hardy / KB3RAN

**Vice-President:** Bill Hackett / N3XMZ

**Secretary:** Ron Byzet / WA4PRR

**Treasurer:** Dick Ratcliffe / W3RBR

**Director:** Steve Hempling / N3IPN

**BOARD MEETING:** The CARA Board met was held at the IHOP in Prince Frederick. The following were discussed:

- 1.> The General Class being held by CARA.
  - A> The books for the class were discussed.
  - B> The possibility of conducting our own test session. Alternate test sessions were discussed.
  - C> Bill / N3XMZ reported he is working on his VEC.
- 2.> Errors in meeting minutes were discussed.
- 3.> The problems with the website were discussed
- 4.> Budget modified to cover postcards (\$25) and stamps (\$20) for membership survey.

**BUDGET:** A Line Item was added to the Budget of \$100.00 for Education supplies. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

**MINUTES:** The October and September minutes were submitted for approval. The minutes were approved subject to corrections.

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**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Our Treasurer reported that the checking balance was \$5,136.76 after postcards (\$25) and stamps (\$20) for membership survey were reimbursed. The Treasurers report was was approved by the members present. Monica / KC3DAS reports that she needs replacements for some of the broken document holders used on our displays. It was moved and approved to spend up to \$100 by the members present.

### **REPEATER DISCUSSION:**

- 1.> Bill / N3XMZ proposed amending the budget for repeater repair back to \$50.
- 2.> Shawn / N3AE led a discussion on the replacements for the antennas and mounts fo the Prince Frederick site.
- 3.> The cost of the climb to replace the antennas and feed lines, etc.
- 4.> The feed line problems at the Prince Frederick tower and the repair of the feed line was discussed.
- 5.> Bids are being sought for the climb from various sources. Bids due by the end of the month.
- 6.> A motion was made to spend up to \$3,000.00 be budgeted for repeater repairs. The motion was made, seconded and passed by a vote of the members present.
- 7.> It was proposed that a pledge drive be held to support the tower work. At least two members have pledged funds.

**WEBSITE:** Ron / WA4PRR reported that he needs to purge the member list and the access to the MEMBERS ONLY area of the website of all that have not paid their dues for 2017. He will send out e-mails to members to remind them that if they don't re-join by the January meeting, they will have to re-apply as new members.

**HOLIDAY PARTY:** The Holiday Party will be held on December 22nd at 5 pm.

- 1.> Musical entertainment will feature a singer-guitar and accordion player.
- 2.> The food will be everyone brings a dish to share.
- 3.> 50-50 raffle
- 4.> Gift Exchange will be a maximum of \$20 for those folks participating.

### **UPCOMING ACTIVITIES:**

- 1.> Fire Department Open Houses were discussed and should be on our calendar.
- 2.> PRAD Parade Communications Support-was discussed.

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- 3.> There is some interest in doing some mountain-top ops. If interested, please contact a board member.
- 4.> Activities Coordinator is needed.
- 5.> Setting up stations for the upcoming NATIONAL NIGHT OUT was discussed.
- 6.> Fox Hunt  
Please consider helping out with the club events. Our volunteerism has decreased recently and folks are missing out on fun and rewarding activities. Hope to see you soon.

**MEMBERSHIP:** The drop in membership was discussed. Ways to increase participation was discussed. Various activities were discussed.

### **BREAK**

**50-50 Drawing:** The drawing was won by Don / KR3A, who kept \$10.50 and donated \$10.50 to the club for a total of \$31.00

**COOKIE MONSTER:** Don / KR3A (or Chris) will be Cookie Monster for January.

**ACTIVITIES:** The following were discussed:

- 1.> SKYWARN class was discussed
- 2.> Solomons parade communication were discussed
- 3.> Social media accounts such as Facebook, QRZ were a subject of discussion
- 4.> Shawn / N3AE reported on the OPSCON operations which had 10 participants.
- 5.> Bill / N3XMZ reported on RACES activities. EOC was opened to the RACES members.

**REPEATER REPORT:** Bill / N3XMZ reported:

- 1.> There is noise on the repeater which is from an outside source causing receiver de-senceing. Tracing the noise is underway.
- 2.> Ron / WA4PRR requested that the Time reporting be turned off during 12 midnight through 6AM to keep from interrupting sleep.
- 3.> Shawn / N3AE the digi-peater is not working. The squelch is not set correctly and the 25 year-old TNC is not working well in the noisy environment. It was suggested that a new TNC be purchased to replace the old one.

**STATION COMMITTEE:** NO REPORT.

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### **PROGRAMS:**

- 1.> Looking for program ideas for the next year. One suggestion was a tour of a local museum, such as the Cryptology Museum, Radio and TV Museum, etc.
- 2.> Greenbank Radio Telescope long trip.

**BREAKFAST:** A breakfast on December 15th will be held. More details to follow on the reflector.

A book on the history of the Calvert County Fire Departments was donated by Monica / KC3DAS.

CARA shirts and vests left over in the radio room - Monica / KC3DAS looking for prices.

Anyone who needs one let her know.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:20 PM.