

APRIL 5th PARC MEETING via (ZOOM)

Executive Present: President Steve VE3PTA, Vice President Paul VE3KBI, Treasurer Barry VE3BLM
Technical Rick VE3IQZ, Activities John VA3NW, Secretary Bob VE3IEL.

ARES Coordinator: John VE3VL
Web Page Coordinator: Harman VE3EMA
PARC PL Net Coordinator: Nina VE3IRK

Members Present: Martin VA3OMW Don VE3BSR Don VE3ET Tom VE3ELE
Sylvia VE3HXC Bob VE3RVZ Keith VA3HXC Rick VE3RKY
Terry VA3IX Paresh VE3PQX Mark VE3LJQ Brian VE3NSI
Geoff VA3POZ Karen VA3KDF Phyllis VA3PVB Jerry VA3CN
Paul VE3AXT

Highlight: Club meetings continue via ZOOM.

Treasurers Report: Barry VE3BLM reported that our PARC main account was \$2006.66.
Our petty cash was \$ 318.70. Our GIC \$855.19.
Our expenses: \$120.00 for the cost of transfer of licences, paid to Steve VE3PTA.
There was also a cost for Nexicom connection of \$62.09 and a Bank Service charge of \$1.25. \$35.00 was received from Nina VE3IRK. New memberships were received from Nina VE3IRK, Harman VE3EMA, and Don VA3ET.

Technical Report: Rick VE3IQZ reported that nothing has changed. Our repeaters are working OK. A discussion began on the possible use of Wires X. At this time, no equipment for Wires X is in place. Bob VE3RVZ may have more knowledge of Wires X usage, if really required. He has not noticed any activity there yet.

ARES report: John VE3VL reported that for Field Day, Newhall Park is nearly ready for our club use. The City authorities are supportive of helping us use the park, as we are a part of the City's emergency plan. That would mean no fee for its' use. We need Insurance certification, and our plan for use of the park. All this information is required at least by the 24th of May. It is expected that our club will participate in Field Day, this year. Field Day dates are Friday, June 24th; Saturday, June 25th; and Sunday, June 26th. Our allowed operation is from 6:00 AM EDT Friday morning to 6:00 PM EDT Sunday evening. Plans for Field Day should be clarified by our club meeting in May. No club decisions need be made until then.

Portable Fox Hunt: Paul VE3KBI reported that he is expecting delivery of special equipment that he could add to one of his Baofeng handhelds for fox hunt use. This would allow the placing of a hidden transmitter to be found following its CW transmissions.

POTA discussion: Parks On The Air information began. Don VA3ET told us how Hunter and Activator rules for POTA worked. He pointed out that although POTA is not a contest, many types of awards are available, depending on your operation. POTA may be worked any day, and it is worldwide. POTA must be worked from inside a Provincial or Federal Park. (more)

POTA Continued: 10 contacts must be made before you activate a Park. Every band operated can be a new activation. There is a POTA information web page for viewing. POTA is managed by volunteers. Donations are optional. POTA is designed as an outing for fun. Don VA3ET, Steve VE3PTA, and Paul VE3KBI are three of the local members already getting awards for POTA participation. A list of local Parks is being put together for interested club members. Our President, Steve VE3PTA, thinks that POTA would be another good activity for club members. Rick VE3RKY mentioned how different set-ups could produce good results. Paul VE3KBI mentioned some rare contacts he had made operating POTA.

Club Room Accommodation:

The club is still looking for a club meeting room. John VA3NW is trying to contact someone he is aware of at the Peterborough Zoo. John VA3NW noted that other clubs of which he is a member meet at a room at the zoo. He shall try again to make contact, so our club might also use this meeting room. We might be able to meet together, in person, come September.

Keith VA3HXC suggested a ye or nay vote for club in person meetings.

Don VE3BSR suggested that a show of hands for a ye or nay vote could be taken immediately. Many hands went up for in person meetings.

A split resource meeting was forwarded by Brian VE3NSI. A meeting place with good internet connection could add the ZOOM function or a Webinar feed. He related how he had made Webinar connections for a Historical Society as well as for a Horticultural Society with some success.

Martin VA3OMW pointed out some pitfalls that he experienced with a Webinar meeting he attended. Problems came up as members found it hard to ask questions or make comments during the meeting. Martin VA3OMW stressed how unworkable the meeting was that he attended.

Terry VA3IX pointed out that we could lose some member participation if we did not start meeting in person. He pointed out that some members would not show up on ZOOM but would attend an in-person meeting. Terry VA3IX commented that, no matter what, we must learn to live with COVID health issues.

Nevertheless, some members are worried about close contact with other people. These people would rather not chance infection or pass on COVID strains now.

Rick VE3RKY described how a useful Wi-Fi process would make hybrid meetings viable. He has experience in providing good modern results.

Steve VE3PTA pointed out that club meetings will continue on ZOOM until at least September.

Ontario QSO Party: A discussion was led by John VA3NW and Rick VE3IQZ on Ontario QSO Party contesting. John VA3NW, one of our most avid contesters, remarked that he would not be able to take part in this Ontario QSO Party contest. John VA3NW remarked that his ability to score marks in contests had greatly improved over the years. The Ontario QSO Party takes place from 1800Z April 16th, to 0500Z April 17th, and 1200Z to 1800Z April 17th. Rick VE3IQZ informed us that he planned to join Bill VE3CRU as they moved from county to county in Ontario to score points. Bill VE3CRU is an experienced (rover). It was also mentioned how the 2 metre frequency of 146.55 MHZ FM simplex might be used to gather points for the Ontario QSO Party contest. (more)

Ontario QSO Party discussion, continued:

Rules for the Ontario QSO Party are managed by the Contest Club of Ontario. John VA3NW encouraged club members to take part in this Ontario centered contest. More information on this contest is available from Radio Amateurs of Canada Web Site.

Club Antenna Raising Committee:

Paul VE3AXT, the coordinator of our antenna raising committee, is calling on members to contact him if they wish antenna work to be done. At present he has 6 volunteers. He does need more climbers. As weather improves, more antenna improvements are also likely. A few members remarked on the possibility of a future need for an antenna work party. Any list of helpers should be forwarded to him through e-mail: ve3axt@rac.ca. Paul VE3AXT plans to be back in Canada April 27th from his holiday in Belize.

As there was no more business, President Steve VE3PTA called for the the meeting to close.

Motion to adjourn: Don VA3ET
Seconded by: Don VE3BSR

The meeting closed at 8:16 PM EDT.

Minutes of April 5th PARC General meeting
Submitted: Secretary, Bob Chrysler VE3IEL
April 6th, 2022.