

## December 6<sup>th</sup> PARC GENERAL MEETING

This general PARC meeting was a virtual ( ZOOM ) meeting. Technical facilities for a hybrid meeting were unavailable this time. Our technician Rick VE3RKY was ill. The in-house resource was canceled. President Steve VE3PTA gave notice of this change as best he could. Some members did not get the cancellation notice if they were not on an up-to-date PARC list.

**Executive members present (via ZOOM):** President Steve VE3PTA, Vice President Paul VE3KBI, Treasurer Barry VE4BLM, Technical Rick VE3IQZ, Activities John VA3NW, Secretary Bob VE3IEL.

**Club officers present:** ARES coordinator John VE3VL, Webmaster/Resources Harmen VE3EMA, PL Net coordinator Nina VE3IRK.

<b>Members present:</b> Don VE3BSR	Jerry VA3CN	Terry VA3IX
Phyllis VA3PVB	Martin VA3OMW	Karen VA3KDF
Colin VA3YYZ	Geoff VA3POZ	Sylvia VE3HXC
Don VA3ET	Brian VE3NSI	Devon VE3DEV
Ted VA3 FZZ	Dave VE3SD	
Barry VA3BB	Keith VA3HXC	

Secretary Bob VE3IEL reported that, via ZOOM, there were 25 present.

**Treasurers report:** Treasurer Barry VE3BLM sent your Secretary the following report from November 2022:

KPRDSB (Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board) \$47.42 expense.  
VA3POZ Geoff & VA3KDF Karen dues paid \$45.00  
VE3XIC Christine dues paid \$46.50  
VE3IEL Bob dues paid \$35.00  
VA3YYZ Colin dues paid \$35.00  
VA3ET Don dues paid \$46.50  
VA3GPK Gary dues paid \$35.00  
VA3PDJ Darren dues paid \$46.50  
VE3HXC Sylvia dues paid \$46.50  
VA3WNZ Sean dues paid \$35.00  
VA3CN Jerry dues paid \$35.00  
PTBO Rowing Club donation \$500.00  
From 50/50 draw \$10.00  
RAC ( Radio Amateurs of Canada) insurance - \$444.41 expense  
Nexicom \$62.09 expense  
Bank service charge \$3.75 expense

**As of Nov. 30/2022:** Petty cash \$599.20, GIC \$868.76, Bank account \$3,216.02.

**Technical report:** Our Technician Rick VE3IQZ reported; everything is working pretty good. There were no big changes from last month. Steve VE3PTA asked about VE3APL repeater status. Harmen VE3EMA reported that the noise heard on VE3APL was also heard on VE3BUY and VE3PBO depending on how the audio comes through. Harmen VE3EMA also mentioned the possible status of the router at the location in Apsley of John VE3KBI. ( more )

**Technical report continued:** With the router at the location in Apsley, we may need to confirm ways to control in and out signals. There may be another issue in that we may possibly not be able to control a router for VE3APL. Work may need to be done with the router for repeater VE3APL.

**Activities, Winter Field Day:** David VE3SD commented that we need a location for our club to work Winter Field Day. Dave mentioned that if we are to work from a Parks Canada location then we might also work POTA (Parks On The Air ). Dave felt that the club should work Winter Field Day. Dave suggested the area at Lock 23 on the Trent Severn Waterway might be a good location. Dave noted that the club used to use the Liftlock's area but the available trees have been removed. Dave VE3SD has a trailer, which can be heated to keep operators warm. Antennas that were used for Summer Field Day can be used for Winter Field Day. Dave said that he could set up computers and at least one radio. Someone else might bring another radio. Together, that would make a good portable station. Dave would allow his K3 transceiver to be used. The question was asked if he would need help with this plan. Dave remarked that he would always need help. It is helpful for aid in erecting antennas & setting up. Dave noted that the vertical antenna that was used in the summer, worked really well on a previous Winter Field Day. Winter Field Day takes place on Jan. 28/29; the last full weekend in January. You can work from home or a remote location. You can participate by yourself, with your friends, or your family, or your club. The rules may not provide the use of heated operations; however, it is best if we here in the Peterborough area do not strictly apply a no heat rule. Besides Winter Field Day there are other contests for some to consider such as the RAC CANADA Winter contest 2022 on December 17<sup>th</sup>.

**ARES report:** Our ARES coordinator John VE3VL reported that Peterborough ARES is doing well. We are hearing a lot about Auxiliary Communications, and what RAC is doing to transition to a newer ACS operation. Basically it is expected that there will be training that will include IMS courses so that ARES members can participate in an activation with emergency operation centers. A curriculum has not been provided yet. One may be coming out in January. We shall be hearing more information from RAC about the roll-out of an Auxiliary Communications Services. John VE3VL said that our Peterborough group is on board with the RAC plan. Many in our group are interested in the training for municipal emergency operations. Presently our group is going through an organizational review. We had one ZOOM meeting last month and we are having another (Saturday, Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> , 11:00 AM). It is being considered how we shall move forward and what our priorities are. We shall see who in our group will take lead roles. It is expected that our group will finalize our efforts in the near future. John then asked if there were any questions. Devon VE3DEV remarked that if anyone on the ARES floaters list would like to activate ( that is, to be on the active call up list ), they should contact John VE3VL, or herself, Devon VE3DEV.

( more )

**Miscellaneous comments:** Nina VE3IRK was thanked for arranging our Christmas party at the One Eyed Jack Bar & Grill. Youth On The Air, YTA operations was mentioned ( Look for VC3YOTA Ontario Canada all December ). Vice President Paul VE3KBI encouraged club members to try POTA , as he and a few others in the club are having fun working Parks On The Air. Secretary Bob VE3IEL asked about past minutes that had been recorded in Braille by Devon. Perhaps they could be transcribed to paper. Bob also asked about recorded minutes of previous PARC meetings that were made by former President Andrew VE3AND. Bob will have to check with Andrew.

**Club minutes discussion:** A further discussion began with President Steve VE3PTA mentioning how he had some issues trying to forward our PARC minutes to other members. Steve VE3PTA asked Devon VE3DEV if she could use attached minutes. Devon VE3DEV responded that it would depend on what form the attachment is. She indicated that PDF attachments are somewhat difficult. A Word attachment would be fine. Files made with JPEG type format would not work. Harmen VE3EMA noted that the PDF club minutes posted on our club Web-site are generated from a Word document and are readable. Harmen then asked Devon if she had been able to download minutes from our Web-site. Devon replied that she had not tried. Devon inquired about minutes being posted on our Web-page. (Peterborough Amateur Radio Club Web-site has our Club minutes). Devon VE3DEV asked if the minutes might be more available if they were sent via a membership list. Steve VE3PTA responded that he was working on that idea. Steve VE3PTA commented that a solution would be worked on so that she, Devon would be able to receive the minutes. Bob VE3IEL mentioned that he transcribed the minutes from recordings to an Open-Office program. Devon VE3DEV said that she was unaware of that program. Terry VA3IX commented that Open-Office files could be read with Word software. Keith VA3HXC noted that an audio copy of the minutes might work for Devon. Devon commented that, yes that would work. Keith then asked Bob VE3IEL to send him the minutes in order to convert them, text to voice, as an audio copy for Devon. Bob responded by saying he could do this only with the November minutes as they had been approved and posted. December minutes could be forwarded once they are approved and posted. Keith & Bob agreed to cooperate on producing an audio copy of the minutes. Bob VE3IEL noted that he was in the process of making arrangements with Devon so that her Braille minutes can be converted to a paper version and placed in our minutes book & on our website. Bob commented that this will take time. Keith & Harmen discussed the idea of posting audio versions of our club minutes also on our website. Harmen VE3EMA agreed that this was OK. Secretary Bob VE3IEL then asked Phyllis VA3PVB if the meeting recordings done by Andrew VE3AND were still available as they might also be transcribed to our minute book. Phyllis suggested that Andrew VE3AND should be contacted about those files. Steve VE3PTA asked how far back we should go in getting older minutes. Steve noted that some minutes are missing since 2009. ( more )

**Club minutes discussion continued:** Bob VE3IEL commented that the past minutes that he had are more like summaries rather than true minutes. Barry VE3BLM inquired if the ARES ZOOM meeting minutes recorded by John VE3VL could be played back. John VE3VL responded yes; but he deletes these recorded files after about a year. John also commented that the ZOOM files are video files. ZOOM files might be convertible to audio files, to save band width.

**Announcement of January 3<sup>rd</sup> nominations:** President Steve VE3PTA announced that nominations will be held for the executive of our club. This will be for election of the executive for the next term.

**Recordings:** Barry VE3BLM asked permission to try recording the present meeting. This experiment did not get resolved as ZOOM host requirements were restrictive.

**Other business:** The death of club member Mark Coady VE3LJQ was noted. Devon VE3DEV was asked if she had more information about Mark's death. Devon responded that she was unaware that Mark had become a silent key. It was noted that Mark had died November 29<sup>th</sup>. It was pointed out that Mark had also been a member of the local astronomy club. Geoff VA3POZ remarked that, as soon as he knew more about the final arrangements for Mark, he would pass them along.

President Steve VE3PTA reported that we had a very successful club Christmas dinner. From all the comments he has heard, everyone enjoyed it. Steve congratulated Nina VE3IRK for doing a great job on arranging it for our club. Jerry VA3CN commented that it was so good to see everybody. It was noted that it had been two years because of COVID restrictions that our club had been able to have a Christmas party.

**More business questions:** Rick VE3IQZ asked how some members did not get information about that this meeting had been changed to just a ZOOM meeting, and the school room was unavailable. A discussion began about the time that the room cancellation was sent out. Rick VE3IQZ mentioned that timely e-mails could be sent quickly to a list. Barry VE3BLM commented that he did not receive notice until 3:30, going on 4:00 PM. Steve VE3PTA said that he had done the best he could. Not everyone was on a mailing list that Steve had. In future, an attempt shall be made to get everyone on a current list for e-mails. People who are out of town, or mobile, are difficult to reach on short notice. Barry VE3BLM agreed how difficult it could be to reach everyone on short notice. Devon VE3DEV suggested that an apology be sent to those who went to the school not knowing that there would be no meeting there. Steve indicated that he did not have all of the proper e-mails of the people who mistakenly went to the school. Keith VA3HXC commented that people should know that, "stuff happens". Bob VE3IEL joked that money might help, "money talks". Nina VE3IRK had gone to the school. Yet, after checking her e-mails there noticed that the school room meeting had been canceled. No one suggested that Steve VE3PTA was at fault for notifications. ( more )

**End of meeting:** President Steve VE3PTA asked if everyone was ready to end the meeting.

Jerry VA3CN moved that the business of the meeting be ended.

Barry VE3BLM moved that the meeting be closed.

President Steve VE3PTA closed the meeting at 8:17 PM.

*Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> minutes submitted Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> 2022*

*Secretary Bob VE3IEL*