

CARA Meeting Minutes - July 2015

The July, 2015 meeting was called to order by our President, Bob / N3PPH at approximately 7:30 pm. There were 12 members in attendance.

The minutes for the June meeting were approved as posted on the website with corrections.

Treasurer's Report:

Bank Balance: \$ 2,611.77

General Fund : \$ 1,638.77

Prince Fredrick Project: \$ 973.00

The Treasurer's Report was accepted by unanimous vote.

Board of Directors Meeting: The Board decided that the various items discussed at the general meeting should be limited to 5 minutes. This will allow additional time for programs, etc. It was also decided that the club should send out postcards to newly licensed hams in Calvert County. The Secretary will compose a sample letter and compile a mailing list.

Committee Reports:

Newsletter: No report.

Repeater Committee:

The Repeater Committee reported on the progress of the Prince Fredrick Project. So far, we have received \$973.00 so far toward the project. Two antenna side arm supports will cost approximately \$300.00. The supports have not been paid for yet.

Eric reports that the tower site manager is revisiting our antenna location on the tower and will get back to us.

Tower climbers charge \$80.00 / per climber / per hour to install the antennas on the tower. The crew consists of three persons, two on the tower and one ground worker, for a total of \$240.00 / hour. The installation costs are estimated to be \$1920.00 total.

Those who have pledged money toward the project should make their donations ASAP so the project can be completed.

Public Service: The Rosaryville race will be held on July 19th. They have requested race support again this year.

Station Committee: The Station Committee has requested that anyone donating to the club station please inform the Station Committee prior to dropping the equipment off at Mt. Hope. Access to the Mt. Hope station was discussed.

The missing repeater manuals have been returned to the Mt. Hope club station.

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Education Committee: A Technician License Class will be scheduled for early in November. The classes will be held at Mt. Hope.

ACS (ARES / RACES):

- A.) Radiological Exercise is scheduled for Monday AM. This activity will support ARES / RACES preparedness in the county. Eric / W3OTN reported on some of the details of the exercise.
- B.) An effort to install a permeant antenna at the Huntingtown High School shelters is underway.
- C.) A replacement antenna for Mt. Hope has been approved and ordered by the county. Climbers need to be scheduled.
- D.) The new EOC is being worked by Bill / W3XMZ. He reported a budget of \$20,000 to outfit the EOC communications.

--- **BREAK** ---

The **50-50 Drawing** was won by Chip / K3AWD. He kept \$5.00 and donated back to the club \$32.00. Thanks, Chip. (The proceeds from the 50/50 goes into the PF Project Fund.)

New Business:

- A.) A proposal to have automated weather reporting on our repeaters. The discussion was tabled.
- B.) Dave / W3PQS reports that the repeater has been augmented with a new 100 Watt power amp and a preamp to improve the performance of the 2 Meter repeater. The cost of the amplifier and preamp was \$742.91. Dave / W3PQS donated \$200.00 toward the purchase. The members authorized the remaining \$542.91 for the equipment.
- C.) Shawn / N3AE received a request to add a Gateway for WINLink too our repeater system. The plans for our emergency services were discussed.

Field Day Committee: Field Day was held at the **Broomes Island Community Center** this year. Monica / KC3DAS was our Field Day chairperson. Dave / N3TZO did his usual excellent job on the power distribution system. Those who provided food kept everyone well fed over the weekend. Thanks for all those who contributed.

Eric / W4OTN conducted a discussion on our Field Day after the break. He put together a excellent slide show of our efforts.

Dave / W3PQS will be putting a video together and will send it out on the reflector and the website.

Receipts for items purchase for Field Day should be given to Monica, who will pass them along to treasurer for payment.

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The Field Day report was sent to the ARRL by the Secretary. Following the meeting, a new revised report will be sent with supporting data and photos.

The Cookie Monster will be Don / KR3A for the August meeting.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:52 PM.