

Preface: The intent of this proposed change to the By-Laws is to make the majority of CARA meetings unencumbered by business issues and much more focused on presentations of general interest and “fun” amateur radio related activities. We believe that CARA business can adequately be conducted quarterly (and possibly even bi-annually). The definitions of Regular Meeting and General Meeting were chosen to minimize collateral changes in the By-Laws and to avoid any need to modify the Constitution as well.

NOW:

ARTICLE VII MEETINGS:

SECTION 1: General Meetings. General Meetings shall be held on the first Thursday each calendar month with the exception of December. The December General Meeting will be a Holiday meeting open to all members and their guests, with time and place to be determined at the November General Meeting.

PROPOSED:

SECTION 1:

- (1) **General Meetings.** *General Meetings shall be held on the first Thursday of a month, quarterly, for conduct of CARA business. General Meetings shall typically be held in January (winter), April (spring), July (summer) and November (fall), although the Board may re-schedule a General Meeting (except November’s meeting for officer election) to accommodate a presentation or speaker so long as one General Meeting per calendar quarter is held.*
- (2) **Regular Meetings.** *Regular Meetings shall be held on the first Thursday of the month in months when a General Meeting is not held. The December Regular Meeting will be a holiday meeting open to all members and their guests, with time and place to be determined at the November Business Meeting. ~~General-Regular~~ Meetings are intended to serve as a venue for presentations of interest to the amateur radio community, informal discussion on amateur radio related topics and occasional hands-on construction projects. Regular Meetings are informal and not governed by Roberts’ Rule of Order. The only business open for vote at a Regular Meeting are acceptance and installation of new members. Prospective candidates for officers will be presented at the October Regular Meeting by the Nomination Committee per Article II Section 3.*

Note: The rest of the proposed changes, shown on the following pages, are trivial changes to make the rest of the by-laws consistent with these new definitions for General and Regular meetings. Changes shown in red font.

ARTICLE I

MEMBERSHIP:

SECTION 3: Applications.

- (1) All applications for membership shall be made in writing to CARA, with the appropriate dues.
- (2) The application constitutes an agreement on the part of the applicant, if elected, to adhere to all By-Laws, rules and regulations of CARA.
- (3) The election of an applicant to be a Member shall require the approval of a majority of the members present at a ~~Regular~~ General Meeting.

SECTION 4: Membership Types and Terms

- (1) Membership in CARA will be for one calendar year, beginning January 1st and ending December 31st of the same year.
- (2) Members are required to pay dues annually; otherwise they will become an Inactive member by ~~the~~ April 1st ~~General Meeting~~.

SECTION 8: Removal of Officers.

- (1) Officers may be considered for removal from office for cause, upon written petition of six (6) or more Full Members, in good standing, presented to the President or Vice President.
- (2) On recommendation by a majority of the Board of Directors, any Officer may be considered for removal from office for misconduct, violation of his or her trust, or any other just cause.
- (3) The subject officer's duties shall be temporarily suspended until the petition is resolved, and the officer notified immediately by registered mail. After investigation the petition will be presented to the membership at the next ~~General CARA~~ Meeting and voted on by the membership. The subject officer shall have the opportunity for defense at the meeting.
- (4) Removal of an officer requires a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Full Members, in good standing, present at a General Meeting.

ARTICLE III BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

SECTION 3: Nomination and Election of Board of Directors. By no later than the 1st (first) of October of every year, the Nominating Committee shall present a slate of proposed Officers and At-Large Director to the Board of Directors and shall present such slate to the membership at the October ~~General~~ Regular Meeting. Additional nominations may be made by Members at the October ~~General~~ Regular Meeting. Nominations will be closed at the end of the October ~~General~~ Regular Meeting. The Secretary shall distribute Nominations to Members via email after the October ~~General~~ Regular Meeting, and no later than ten (10) days before the November ~~General~~ Meeting. Names of the candidates, the date, time and location of the November General Meeting shall be included in this email. Voting shall be by ballot when there are two (2) or more candidates for

President, Vice President, Secretary or Treasurer or the At-Large Director. An open vote may be taken for any candidate who is unopposed. Newly elected Board Members shall take office on January 1st.

SECTION 10: Required Vote. An affirmative vote of a majority of Board members present shall be necessary for the passage of any resolution or other action. Final decisions on matters of interest to the general membership, as determined by a majority of the Board, shall not be made during Board meetings but shall be referred to the general membership for approval at the next ~~regular~~ **General business Meeting** of the membership. The Board may make final decisions on any matters that require action before the next ~~regular business~~ **General Meeting** of the membership.

SECTION 11: Budget. An operating budget for the upcoming fiscal year beginning in January will be generated by the Board of Directors and given to the Treasurer. The Treasurer shall present the budget at the ~~October~~ **November** General Meeting for approval. The Board of Directors shall ensure that CARA is operated within fifteen percent (15%) of the approved budget and not at a deficit during any fiscal year, unless otherwise approved by a vote of the membership.

SECTION 13: Audit Committee. At the November General Meeting the, the President shall appoint, and the Board of Directors shall ratify, an Audit Committee of three (3) Full members, who are not current Officers, to audit the books, accounts and property beginning in January of the following year. The Audit Committee shall read their report findings at the ~~February~~ **spring** General Meeting.

ARTICLE IV OFFICERS:

SECTION 5: Duties of the Treasurer:

(7) Shall send the appropriate records to the Audit Committee in a timely manner following the ~~January~~ **winter** General Meeting so as to include all revenues and expenses for the prior year and allow sufficient time for the Audit Committee to report out at the ~~February~~ **spring** General Meeting.

ARTICLE VIII ORDER OF BUSINESS:

SECTION 2: Rules of Order. Roberts' Rules of Order shall govern the **General and Special** meetings of CARA, in parliamentary usage, so far as applicable and not inconsistent with these By-Laws. Unless otherwise provided for in the Articles of Incorporation or these By-Laws, the most current version of Robert's Rules of Order shall govern proceedings of CARA.