**CARA BOARD MINUTES March 14, 2024**

**Board Members Attending: President Brian Kress KB3WFV, Vice-President Erik Johnson KC3QQD, Secretary Shawn Donley N3AE, Treasurer Richard Ratcliffe W3RBR, Director Dave Weaver W3PQS**

**Members attending: Kim K3OCM, Bill N3XMZ, Andy KC3WRX, Lisa Kress, Karen (guest)**

The Board meeting was called to order 6:34pm

Board had a quorum of all five officers present

The president now has signature authority at our bank, along with the treasurer. An eight month CD in the amount of $3000.00 was opened. It has an annual yield of 4.75%. Our bank balance at the end of February, before the CD was funded, was $6510.03. KC3QQD has submitted an invoice to the treasurer for our Zoom account.

The president has succeeded in getting administrator access to our Facebook page. The Facebook page may have better reach than our web page. Case in point….Our guest at the meeting, Karen, found out about CARA and our meeting from our Facebook page. Karen plans to get her license. There’s an effort to have our web site synchronize content with our Facebook page. There was some discussion about our current web hosting provider, both about the cost and storage limitations. The company is in the UK and we are limited to 1GB of storage. W3PQS provided a list of possible alternative web hosting providers. KB3WFV mentioned that SQUARE also offers web hosting and has the added advantage of being able to collect funds using the SQUARE application and a card reader. N3AE will verify that the AUXCOMM web site is hosted separately.

The Board went through the latest CARA inventory and decided what items should be retained by CARA for events like Field Day, and what items should be made available to members and the larger ham radio community for a donation to CARA. N3AE has generated the two lists which will be distributed to CARA membership shortly.

At the last Board meeting, we had planned to go through the large amount of documentation given to our current Secretary by our prior Secretary, KB3RAN. This proved to be impossible in the time we had during the Board meeting and remains a future task to complete.

The Board meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm

**CARA MEMBERS MEETING MINUTES March 14, 2024**

**Attending: President Brian Kress KB3WFV, Vice-President Erik Johnson KC3QQD, Secretary Shawn Donley N3AE, Treasurer Richard Ratcliffe W3RBR, Director Dave Weaver W3PQS, Kim K3OCM, Bill N3XMZ, Andy KC3WRX, Lisa Kress, Karen (guest), Matt N3IVK, Bob N3PPH, Daire AC3KX**

**Via Zoom: Dave KC3RWT, Dale N3ILH**

**Readers are encouraged to see the Board minutes above.**

The meeting was called to order by President Brian Kress at 7:37pm with Pledge of Allegiance.

No new member applications were received.

Treasurer’s Report: The treasurer reported we had $6510.03 in our bank account as of Feb 29, 2024 and $3000.00 of this amount was placed in an eight month CD yielding 4.75%. KC3RWT offered to help W3RBR with the CARA treasurer duties.

The list of CARA items available to membership for a donation was agreed upon by the board. The majority of the items are donations from silent key estates or other amateurs. This list is ready to send out to membership.

The Board is looking at changing our web host provider. See the Board minutes for details. Our Facebook page is now up to date since that the president has recovered the password for administrator access. KC3QQD and W3RBR will help administer that site. N3PPH pointed out that using the web url mesh.k3cal.org will take you to the Facebook page. There are software methods that can be used to synchronize information between our web page and Facebook page. The membership present voted to allow the Board to make a decision on web hosting providers and a Facebook tie-in.

KC3QQD reported that the new streamlined CARA membership form is ready to post on our web site.

We’re looking for volunteers to lead our Field Day effort at Brooms Island. Please help out and let our president know your intentions. This year Field Day is on June 22-23. W3RBR offered to provide a generator.

The audit committee’s out-brief is due at the spring meeting. KC3WRX volunteered to chair the nomination committee for 2024 and needs two more volunteers. The repeater committee membership remains unchanged.

KC3WRX has contacted Calvert Parks and Recreation about holding NVIS day at Ward Park in Dunkirk. Parks and Recreation had a few questions that needed answers but we’re hoping to get approval. NVIS day is April 27 from 10:00 AM until 4:00 PM.

KC3QQD mentioned an opportunity for CARA to have a table at the Calvert farmers market held on Tuesday’s next to the hospital in Prince Frederick. No decision was made pending information on cost and any other requirements.

We learned that W1JD is trying to set up regularly scheduled amateur radio exams in St Mary’s county.

Upcoming events:

Apr 27 NVIS Day

June 22-23 Field Day (Brooms Island)

Aug 10 Maryland QSO Party

There was no 50-50 this meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm