

Regular FARA Monthly Meeting Minutes

November 18, 2021

Zoom meeting

President Larry W1IZZ called the Zoom meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Twenty four (24) members were counted by the Zoom software or members sent an email to Charlie K1CB: President Larry W1IZZ, Mel KC1ELB, Charlie K1CB, Jay WB4KYW, Geoff W1OH, Ralph N1YHS, Lee NQ1L, Don N1JCT, Gene KX1C, Chuck W1GUR, Earl W1EEB, Harold N1ZTV, Tim W1TCD, Al N1MF, George N1GJ, Mike KC1MUU, Henry K1WCC, Tommy N1TFA, Jake W1JKM, John KC1MLR, George K1GRH, Lyn N1LYN, Alan WM1N, and Marinna W1FX.

Executive Board Members Absent: Doug N1OEI and Glen KC1GKT.

President Larry W1IZZ declared a quorum present.

•**Secretary:** Secretary Charlie K1CB reported that the minutes for September 30, 2021, were distributed via email and posted on the FARA website. Don N1JCT moved that they be accepted. Seconded by Lee NQ1L. Motion passed unanimously.

Program:

President Larry W1IZZ presented a powerpoint presentation titled "A New Digital Mode, VARAC".

Reports of Officers:

•**Treasurer:** no report

• **President Larry W1IZZ announced:**

•Our next FARA Zoom meeting is on Thursday, December 16, at 7:00 PM. More information will follow.

- FARA's October meeting was cancelled because of the storm and the loss of electricity.
- That the Executive Board is looking for a person that will conduct the 2 m net on Monday evenings.
- Donations totaled \$975 from the sale of donated equipment.
- With the construction of solar panels at the Fair Ground in Falmouth, that may end our use of the property.
- **2 Meter Net**— Al WM1N has stepped down from the net. Jake W1JKM volunteered to assist during the meeting. Alan WM1N reported there were not many check-ins lately.

The Monday night net is used for general topics: conversations, club news, information, and upcoming events and flea markets, along with reviewing FARA's minutes and various ham and non-ham related information. Anyone, mobile, portable or home station, is welcomed to check into the net. The net is held on every Monday evening at 7:30 PM on the club's K1RK 2 Meter repeater. The repeater has a frequency of 146.655 MHz with a negative offset of 0.6 MHz and PL tone of 88.5. All hams are welcome. Feel free to jump in as net control if the net does not open at 7:30 PM. If the repeater ever develops a problem, please QSY to the simplex frequency of 146.655 MHz.

• **6 Meter Net**— Please check in to the 6-meter net. This net is held every Wednesday at 7 PM on Barnstable's 53.010 MHz repeater. Brian W1HXN or Jon N1ILZ are usually net control. The repeater has a negative 1.0 MHz offset with a PL tone of 173.8. Gene KX1C reported that recently there were 2 or 3 check-ins.

• **10 Meter Net**— Jim's WA1GPO's daily 10 meter net on 28.411 MHz at 11 AM will resume in the fall of 2021. Jim's WA1GPO is thinking about using other HF frequencies.

• **900 MHz K1RK repeater**— Please key up and use FARA's 900 MHz K1RK repeater anytime especially on every Thursday. FARA's K1RK 927.850 MHz has an input of 902.0625 (-25.775 MHz) and of PL 88.5.

•ARRL VE Session:

Lee NQ1L reported that they had 2 candidates for the October and November testing sessions. John Regan (KC1PRQ) passed his Extra Class exam in October and 1 person passed his Tech Exam in November. Both have applied for membership to FARA.

FARA's VE Sessions are held at 9:00 AM every 2nd Saturday of the month. The location is **usually** the basement of the Falmouth Town Hall but because of the Covid 19 the new location is the Forestdale Church on route 130. Please contact ARRL VE chairperson Lee NQ1L at nq1l38@gmail.com if you have any questions.

•Membership Chair:

Lee NQ1L moved that Christopher Ranney (WA1CM) of Sandwich be accepted into FARA. Jay WB4KYW seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Lee NQ1L reported that four (4) potential candidate(s) for membership submitted a written application to this corporation and this is the first meeting after such application has been received.

They are Stan Laine (W1LE) of Sandwich, Tom Sweeny (N1EZL) of Falmouth, Jonathan Wisch (KC1QBQ) of Mashpee and Andrew Maffei (KC1QBR) of East Falmouth.

Lee NQ1L expects a FARA membership total of 166 members for 2021.

All FARA communications are conducted via email. Please notify Lee NQ1L of any changes to your email address and especially when you pay your FARA dues. His email address is nq1l38@gmail.com.

NQ1L reminded all members that 2022 dues are due January 1st. To date three (3) members have paid.

Dues payable via FARA's website under the membership tab or by USPS mail to: FARA PO Box 815, West Falmouth, MA 02574

•**Publicity:** no report

•**Web Master:** Larry W1IZZ reported that he is fine tuning our new FARA web site. His powerpoint on "VARAC" will be added to our web site along with Charlie's K1CB presentation on "Introduction to Common Logarithms decibels (dB), and Ham Radio Decibel".

FALMOUTH ARES:

Charlie K1CB reported that everything is quiet at the hospital except for an antenna that was lost on the hospital roof according to Jim WA1GPO.

If possible, the hospital ARES members meet on the first Saturday of the month in the Maternity Conference room near the Lilly Lobby at 10 AM for the hospital exercise, as well as on the 2nd Thursday of the odd numbered months (except May) at 7 PM, also in the Maternity Conference room near the Lilly Lobby. All are welcome.

Henry K1WCC reminded everyone that the Cape Cod ARES 2 m net is held every Wednesday at 8 PM on the Barnstable 146.955/-0.6 MHz, PL - 88.5 repeater.

Henry K1WCC also invited everyone to join in on his upper Cape ARES net frequency of 146.580 MHz at 8 PM. The net meets on the third Thursday evening of every month.

Henry K1WCC also reported that an ARES exercise will be held in February 2022. More info will follow.

Mel KC1ELB invited everyone to join in on his new upper Cape ARES net simplex frequency of 446.250 MHz simplex after the 2 m simplex net. The net meets on the third Thursday evenings of every month approx. at 8:30 PM.

FARA is always looking for members to join the ARES group.

•**Quartermaster:** Ralph N1YHS reported no changes, everything is status quo.

•**K1RK Repeaters:** all appear to be operating properly but the 2 m Fusion repeater still needs an internet connection.

2 m K1RK (146.655/-0.6 MHz, PL - 88.5)

2 m DMR K1RK (145.2000/-0.600 MHz)

927.850 MHz K1RK (Input: 902.0625 (-25.775 MHz) PL 88.5

•**Club Shack:** Ralph N1YHS reported that the Veterans Group acquired the lease for part of the senior center and they will make room for FARA, just like they did at JBCC. More information will follow in the spring.

•**Field Day 2021:** keep open June 24, 25, 26.

•**Falmouth Road Race:** keep open August 21

•**Cape Cod Marathon:** keep open 1st weekend in October

•**FARAFest:** Ralph N1YHS reported that FARAFest held at the Upper Cape Tech went well. Profit was over \$1100. One person chose not to attend because of the school's face mask policy. A problem about outside dumpster trash was reported to FARA. Ralph N1YHS will respond to the school administration.

•**Nominating Committee:** (no officers) President Larry W1IZZ asked for volunteers for the committee. Now is the time to start looking for Officers and Board of Directors for the 2022 calendar year

•**Audit Committee:** (no officers) to be formed later in the year

Special Committee Reports:

•**Emergency Communications Trailer Committee:** no report

•**Holiday Get Together:** President Larry W1IZZ asked for a volunteer (s) to organize this event. Please forward any ideas you have to President Larry W1IZZ.

•**Old Business:** none

•**New Business:** none

•**For the Good of the Order:**

•Henry K1WCC wondered if FARA was planning on holding a “Winter Field Day Event” on January 29 and 30, 2022. The location could be at Goodwill Park on Rte 28 in Falmouth or maybe the Band Shell on Scranton Avenue. Jake W1JKM reported that BARC wan not planning anything and he could supply a generator for the radios.

A motion to adjourn was made by Henry K1WCC. Seconded by Ralph N1YHS. Motion passed unanimously at 8:21 PM.

Minutes submitted by Charlie K1CB, Secretary