

COMARA Board Meeting Minutes
February 28, 2023

Attendees (held virtually, via Zoom):

Maury Mechanick	David Lee
Kim Baumgartner	Geza Serenyi
Roger Cochetti	
Denis Curtin	
Dan DiFonzo	

Adoption of Agenda/Approval of Minutes

Following adoption of the agenda, the Board approved the Minutes for the November 15, 2022 meeting.

Treasurer's Report and Membership Update

The Treasurer's Report covered the time period from November 15, 2022, through February 28, 2023, including year-end results for 2022. Expenses for 2022 came to \$1,548 (including annual P.O. Box rental; website hosting fee; other web expenses; liability insurance; paypal fees; and fall social) and income came to \$2405, reflecting dues payments for 89 members. The value of the COMARA Fidelity account as of year-end 2022 was \$54,186 and total assets were \$64,565, including bank balance, Paypal balance and the Fidelity account. Expenses for 2023 year to date came to \$364 (P.O. Box rental) and income came to \$180, reflecting dues payments for 6 members. The value of the COMARA Fidelity account was \$54,736 and total assets were \$64,928, including bank balance, Paypal balance and the Fidelity account. A provisional expense budget for 2024, comparable to that for 2023, was also noted. Geza also reported that the 2022 post card tax return for COMARA had been submitted to the IRS.

Roget Cochetti suggested reaching out to Lockheed Martin to see if there would be any means for basic information about COMARA to be included in some fashion with any Lockheed Martin communications otherwise sent to COMSAT retirees.

LMCO Benefits

No issues regarding LMCO benefits were noted.

Newsletter, Web Hosting, etc.

Input from Board Members to the new website continues to be strongly encouraged.

Social Activities for 2023

It is anticipated that IRAA and COMARA will again jointly host a picnic during the second quarter of 2023 and both an in-person and virtual annual meeting are slated for the fall of 2023. The final social event of the year will again be the First Wednesday in December event.

Satellite Gallery at the National Electronics Museum Project

The Board was further updated regarding the financial and sponsorship difficulties now facing the National Electronics Museum, which will require relocation or closing of the Museum sometime in 2023. While it remains unclear if a new home for the Museum in its entirety can be located. Possibilities include (1) having the Museum relocate to a private computer museum located in Hunt Valley, MD operated by Bob Roswell, a former Chair of the NEM Board, which is collocated with his business Systems Source NASA and (2) Goddard has expressed interest in the possibility of having the Satellite Gallery relocated in part or whole to the NASA Goddard visitor's center in Greenbelt, MD.

* * * * *

The next Board meeting will take place virtually on Tuesday, June 14, 2023 at 11:30 am.

The meeting adjourned about 12:31 pm.

Submitted by:

Maury Mechanick