

**PROBUS CLUB OF SAINT JOHN
MONTHLY MEETING
20 JANUARY 2010**

The monthly meeting of the Probus Club of Saint John was convened at 10 am at the Boys and Girls Club, with First Vice President Robert Capson chairing and only about 20 members in attendance due to a snowstorm. In one way, Bob was pleased with the low turnout, so that “there aren’t as many here to see me screw up”. The meeting opened with “O Canada”. Since Clarence Blois was absent, there was no sing-along.

Minutes of December 16th were read by the Secretary and approved.

Member News: It was reported that Wylie McGinley’s wife died yesterday, and the Club extended sympathy. Blake McCullough is recovering well.

Finances: Treasurer Don Mitchener reported he received \$250 in dues today, and there is about \$2000 in the bank with all bills paid. He sent Probus Canada dues for 120 members at \$2.50; our current paid membership is 97.

House Committee: Most of those present elected to stay for lasagna and salad lunch.

Phoghorn: Two were reported returned and will be followed up.

Speakers: Bob Capson reported he has Colin Whitcomb for February and is working on David Goss for March.

New Business:

1. Bob reported that pins and brochures have been received. He encouraged members to take brochures for potential new members.
2. Bob reported that the Executive met on January 11th to look at the results of Tor’s member survey, and looked at two new policies:
 - a. A couple of members per meeting to speak about themselves for 3 to 5 minutes; if no volunteers, then calls will be made. Recommended for new members.
 - b. Recommended that the 60/40 winners be given their winnings, and they can decide to keep the cash or donate it to the Boys and Girls Club or to another charity of their choosing. Consensus of the meeting was to leave it as is, and to table any motion to the next meeting in hopes of better attendance.

60/40 Draw: Speaker Cathy Taylor drew Clive Douthwright, who won \$52. There was also a draw, won by Gordon Moulant, of a \$15 meal voucher at Lily’s Café.

Program: Bob Capson, in his role as Chair of the Hatheway (Lily Lake) Pavilion Board, introduced Cathy Taylor, Facilities Manager and Yennah Hurley who coordinates Day Tripping. Cathy reviewed several dozen annual community events that Rockwood Park

hosts as it seeks to make the Park a family destination. Yenna circulated a list of activities that Day Tripping sponsors, and also a circular on the benefits of Nordic Walking. She demonstrated techniques of Nordic walking and snowshoeing. She mentioned that Nordic walking poles can be bought at Rockwood for \$115, and snowshoes for \$120. She also spoke about the upcoming pond hockey tournament February 5th to 7th. There were questions about police presence in the Park especially during summer, and also about independent users registering in case they run into trouble. Robert Capson noted that the Park hopes to add family movie nights and programs for seniors, youth, and those with disabilities. Robert thanked the speakers.

Meeting adjourned for lunch at 11:40. Next meeting February 17th.

Respectfully submitted

Robert Taylor, Secretary.