

PROBUS CLUB OF SAINT JOHN
MONTHLY MEETING
June 19th, 2013

The monthly meeting was held at the Boys and Girls Club, with about 35 members in attendance. Acting President Tor Bordevik welcomed members to the closing meeting of the season. After the National Anthem, Gordon Moulard led the troops in a singalong.

Minutes of May 15th were summarized by Robert Taylor who moved they be accepted.

Guest: Jim Shillington introduced Bill Harrington, a retired Esso agent, McDonald's franchise owner and Rotarian. He filled out an information form and intends to pay in September.

Member News: Clive Douthwright is in hospital briefly.

Financial: Treasurer Don Mitchener filed a report showing a deficit of \$83.65, which includes the following: It was **moved** by Ralph Wood and **seconded** by Ralph Murray that we donate \$500 to the Boys and Girls Club; motion **carried**. A cheque was presented to Sandra MacGowan with our thanks for use of their facilities each month.

Membership: Ed O'Keefe noted there has been no change in membership. He entreated members to aim to each bring a new guest in September.

House Committee: Twenty booked for lasagna lunch.

Phoghorn: Jokes of varying quality were told by Ralph Wood, Robert Taylor and Carl Tompkins. (Members are left to interpret whose joke(s) were of higher (or lower) quality!)

60/40 Draw: Sandra MacGowan drew the name of Bob Reeves who donated \$80 to the Boys and Girls Club.

Guest Speaker was replaced by a discussion of **the Club's future**. Robert Taylor presented results of the **member survey** which was sent as a special issue of the Phoghorn. Without exception, the 14 who responded, and those present today, enjoy their Club membership and wish the Club to continue. The majority will try to bring in a new member in the next year. The majority declined to consider Executive positions (especially President or Vice President), though today's meeting produced two who will consider it. Most do not want to have winter meetings only every other month, and the majority will consider taking part in winter trips, etc. if they are in town. Several said we should renew our ties with Rotary and invite former Rotarians, along with our newer members, to assume Executive positions. Several members can no longer participate due to age, health issues, etc.

Tor Bordevik noted that Vice President Don Shaw has resigned, and that he himself will not serve a third year, though he will continue to be a member of the Club.

He said he spoke to Rotary on June 17th, and some interest was expressed. Above all else, we need new members.

A **Program Committee** was set up to attract speakers: Ed O'Keefe, Glen Macdonald, Frank Ervin, Jim Shillington, John McMillan and Bob James offered to serve on this committee. Noting the absence of both members of the Nominating Committee, it was suggested that this committee might come up with a VP, since program planning is the VP's chief function.

Other member input:

- Name badges need to be ordered promptly for new members, and all members should wear them at meetings.
- One Rotarian suggested a co-ed Club, but neither Club in Saint John is open to that idea.
- An Executive Committee was suggested, with members rotating between the four posts over a four-year term.
- The young are more committed to technology than to group membership; do we have enough commitment to sustain ourselves as a Club?

Meeting adjourned at noon. Next meeting September 18th: \$30 Club Dues are payable at that time.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert Taylor, Secretary.