

PROBUS Club of Saint John

Month of December 2021 – Minutes of Meeting

Call to Order - 10:05 December 15, 2021 – **Don LeBlanc**, President, opened the meeting with the singing of **O Canada**. One of our special guests today was Barry Snodgrass playing the piano. Thirty-three members were in attendance. Don thanked the members who had arranged for the Villa Madonna Retreat House site to be the host for today's meeting!

Memoriams for departed members – A minute of silence was held for **Fenton Keirstead** and **Gordon Mouland**. The attending members sang Danny Boy as a tribute to Gordon Mouland. The President acknowledged that **Blake Brodersen** was in attendance following an extended absence.

It was acknowledged that **Sid Lodi** had brought **Ed Farren** as a guest and potential member.

Minutes of last meeting - The minutes were included in the Phoghorn which was emailed to members. On the motion to accept the minutes, **Chip Lawton** indicated that there was a correction required to the minutes in regard to the official position of **Marlene Pearce**, who was identified as President in the November Minutes, but her title was actually Atlantic Director and that any Member could be nominated to fill her position in May. A motion to accept the minutes as corrected was passed.

Business arising – Nothing presented.

Treasurer Report - **Robert Taylor** indicated that there was approximately \$1800 on hand and that once outstanding bills were paid there would be an approximate balance of \$750. He indicated that a more detailed report would be forthcoming in January.

Upcoming Programs – It was indicated by **John Doyle** that for January the speaker would be **Paul Meier** and for February it would be **Ralph Thomas**. It was suggested that a tour of Moosehead Breweries be looked into for March. John indicated that he would pursue this.

Snippets – **Don LeBlanc** indicated that he had a copy of a book by David Goss and presented some interesting facts; in 1947 a ski hill was constructed in the Ashburn Lake Road area; there used to be a ferry that ran from Indian Town (foot of Maine Street) to Milford and that **Bishop Edouard-Alfred LeBlanc** was the first Acadian appointed to the position of Bishop in the area.

Don Indicated that the **Kiwanis Breakfast** was held on Tuesday morning and was attended by himself, **Carl White**, **John Doyle** and 4 other PROBUS members.

Ralph Wood and **Paul Meier** presented entertaining jokes.

President's Report - **Don LeBlanc** presented **Tom Craig** with his 5-year Service Pin. It was indicated by Don that he would be calling a meeting in January with the Committee formed to focus on activities related to the Club's 30th Anniversary.

It was pointed out that an information sheet about PROBUS was available for members to pick up and to use as a hand-out to potential members.

Break for Coffee

Club Draw – **Don Connelly** was the winner of \$60.00

Presentation – In lieu of a Guest Speaker, the members in attendance, were entertained by the ***Saint John String Quartet***, who played several Christmas selections and at times invited those in attendance to sing along. **Carl Thompkins** thanked each of them on behalf of the Club with a ***Tim's Coffee Card*** in addition to a beautiful ***China cup***.

The meeting adjourned for lunch which was to be a full Turkey Dinner served in the Villa Dining Room.

Minutes Presented by

Carl White, Assistant Recording Secretary