

PROBUS Club of Saint John
Monthly Meeting
September 14, 2016

The first meeting of our 2016-2017 season was held at The Boys and Girls Club, a week earlier than usual, Wednesday, September 14, 2016, at 10:00 a.m. With about 22 members in attendance, President Robert Taylor opened the meeting. After the singing of “O Canada”, Vice President John Doyle led us in a sing-song. A moment of silence was observed in memory of founding member Eric Josselyn. Frank Ervin was reported to have moved to Shannex, Quispamsis. Minutes of the May 18th meeting were read, seconded by John Doyle and approved. After being reminded that our lunch would now be \$8.00, 12 agreed to stay for shepherd's pie and cookie.

ANNUAL MEETING

In the President's Annual Report, President Robert thanked Vice President John Doyle for arranging a run of excellent speakers. He mentioned our PROBUS flag flew at City Hall in April, that we welcomed two new members, Tom Craig and Jim Young, and the death of several former members, with membership now at 47, a decrease of three from the previous year. President Robert thanked the Executive - Vice President John Doyle, Treasurer Don Mitchener, Secretary and Membership Chair Willard Buckley, and Past President and Phoghorn editor Ralph Wood. As well, he thanked the House Committee of Gordon Mouland and Ralph Murray, Choirmaster Gordon Mouland, Photographer Gordon Dempsey, and Webmaster Robert Lockhart.

Treasurer Don Mitchener gave his Annual Financial Report, showing revenue of \$1518.15, expenses of \$1307.78, for an Excess of Revenue over Expenses of \$210.37. Report moved to be accepted by Pat President Ralph Wood, seconded by Ralph Murray and passed by the membership.

Past President Ralph presented the following slate of officers for 2016-2017: Robert Taylor for President, John Doyle for Vice President, Don Mitchener for Treasurer and Willard Buckley for Secretary. He called three times for further nominations for these positions, there being none, they were accepted as proposed. For the position of Second Vice President, Mssrs. Dempsey, Shillington and Craig were proposed, but each regretfully declined, Fenton Keirstead accepted the proposal and was elected.

Ralph Wood agreed to continue as editor of “The Phoghorn”, and Tom Craig accepted the position of House Manager.

President Robert presented an incentive for new members, \$10.00 cash to the

member bringing in a new or lapsed member in October, and \$5.00 for November and December. Moved by Gordon Dempsey, seconded by Dr. Glen Macdonald, passed.

Various advertising ideas were discussed in the hopes of attracting new members. Vice John reminded us of our upcoming programs for this year: October – Author Anne Scott on Human Rights; November – The Cathedral and Bishop's Palace; December – Christmas program, Carl Tompkins to be called to arrange.

President Robert advised that he and Past President Ralph Wood would be attending the PROBUS Regional meeting the following Monday in Moncton.

Our guest speaker, Dr. Erin Schreyer, drew the winning ticket of Richard Burpee, who graciously donated \$46.00 to the Boys and Girls Club, with \$20.00 retained by the Treasurer to offset the possibility of financial loss, if we do not meet our objective of at least 12 members for each lunch. Due to time restraints, we were unable to enjoy “The Fabulous Funnies”.

Vice President John Doyle introduced our guest speaker, Dr. Erin Schreyer, who spoke on Elementary Literacy, and the challenges and problems in New Brunswick, as about 23 – 24 percent of children in Grade 2 are at risk. To help the program, charity and volunteers are required.

The meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

**Respectfully submitted
Willard Buckley
Secretary**