

Minutes Probus Meeting May 15, 2019

Meeting called to order at 10:05 am. Vice President Don LeBlanc in the chair.

Singing of O Canada and sing-along led by Murray Driscoll on the piano and Gordon Mouland.

Memoriam for departed members: No departed members. Richard Burpee brought to our attention that Bob Capson is in poor health and has lost weight and that we should keep him in our prayers.

Minutes of last meeting: Don LeBlanc indicated that the minutes of the April meeting were published in the Phoghorn e-mail. Richard Burpee moved minutes be accepted as presented, seconded by Gordon Dempsey. It was noted that the executive meeting was held April 25, 2019. Minutes of that meeting will be published in the next Phoghorn e-mail.

Business Arising: It was decided we should try to arrange for an outing in the fall. It was felt the outing could be held at a different time than our regular meetings. It might be interesting to have a tour at Moosehead Breweries. They now have a brew pub.

Membership/Guests: John Doyle re-introduced Peter Morris who was presented with a membership pin. Peter was originally from Saint John, had been away for 45 years and recently retired from the oil company, Sunoco. Peter lives in Millidgeville. Peter gave a short talk thanking the club and is looking forward to making connections in the community.

History of Saint John: Bill Covert was not in attendance; Don LeBlanc spoke about Benedict Arnold a subject he is very familiar with. Benedict Arnold lived in Saint John from 1785-1791 and was a very successful businessman. Don explained that Arnold was not a traitor as has been outlined in our school textbooks.

Lunch Count: 22 planned to stay for the optional lunch of roast beef. It was noted that our lunches are prepared by Stone Soup Catering, which is a social enterprise that trains and hires participants to provide them with meaningful work and to deliver healthy meals. Two of the Stone Soup staff were thanked by Probus for their service.

Treasurer's Report: Robert Taylor did not have a formal written report, but the Club started the year with \$1257.00 and ended the year also with \$1257.00. He indicates we appear to be self-sustaining with the annual dues of \$30.00. We have approximately 60 members. It was moved to accept the report as presented and seconded by Sid Lodhi. It was indicated that our donation of \$500.00 was to be made to The Boys and Girls Club covering the period January to May 2019. Amy Shanks from The Boys and Girls Club was presented with a cheque of \$500.00. Amy thanked the Club for the donation.

Fall Program: John Doyle has lined up Derrick Stanford, CEO of The Saint John Airport for September. In October we will have a half hour yoga presentation.

President's Report: Don spoke about how much he enjoys the Club, he talked about our motto which is "We do nothing and have fun doing it." He spoke of his career first with Central Trust then 30 years as a Realtor in Saint John. Don thanked those who contribute as Committee Chairmen and Officers. Don feels Probus is a worthwhile organization for retirees to socialize on a regular basis.

Coffee, 50/50: Gordon Mouland won the 50/50 draw. The total pot was \$107.00. A donation of \$53.50 will be made to The Boys and Girls Club.

Guest Speaker: Peter Jolly introduced Wanda Hughes, spokesperson for The Stonehammer UNESCO Geo Park in Southern New Brunswick. The Geo Park started nine years ago and covers an area of 2500 square kilometers. We have very interesting rock formations, some of which are understood to be one billion years old. Evidence of formations from South America and Africa can be found at Reversing Falls

Rapids. People come from various parts of the world to study our geology. Don LeBlanc thanked Wanda and presented her with a Probus mug. Wanda agreed to stay for lunch and answer further questions.

The meeting was adjourned for the optional roast beef lunch. Tom Craig brought a cake for us to enjoy for our final meeting before the summer break. Our next meeting is scheduled for September 18, 2019.