



Submariners Association of Canada (East)

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting

Wednesday 24th April 2019

MOG5 HQ SR MESS



Opening the Chairman, Sylvain Rouillard, brought the meeting to order (open up for dive) at 19:30 hrs and thanked all who could make tonight's meeting. A thank you was given to Mike Davis for bartending tonight. Please be generous to the bartender. There were no deaths in the past month. A moment of silence was observed for all sick, ailing and departed members. It always important to remember our comrades who have passed. May they always be remembered in our hearts and minds for their good deeds.

Attendance 21 members were in attendance: Mark Aalbers, Art Bodden, Cliff Boettcher, George Byzewski, Jon Carpenter, Brian Cooper, Keith Estabrooks, Rob Fraser, Claude Gendron, Brian Lapierre, Peter Lindstrom, John Madison, John Meehan, Jim Northrup, Marc Pallard, Scotty Parsons, Sylvain Rouillard, John Smith, Boyd Thomas, Brum Tovey and Willy Waugh.

Regrets were received from 27 members: Rob Bergeron, Pete Braun, Buster Brown, Ron Butchart, Terry Chatham, John Clahane, Ron Cooper, Bob Davidson, Jim Gordon, Greg Hallonquist, Jim Harris, Bert Houde, Neil and Rodney Lake, JP Lang, Geoff Mawdesley, Dave McLaughlin, Steve McLellan, Ken McMillian, Tom Nickel, Conrad Petrikowski, David Russell, Steve St. Amant, Lee Thompson, Nigel Walsworth, Peter Weis and Al White(in NZ). (Note More regrets than members attending)

Health and Wellness The secretary, Rob Fraser read out emails previously sent concerning the health of two members. First was about Phil Rody who had been hospitalized on the 8th April in Miramichi with fluid on his lungs. This was serious as he has Asbestosis lungs and was in isolation. We were informed by Brian Cooper that Phil is now back at home. Next email from the 8th April concerned Bob Davidson; his cancer is confined to his prostate. He will be seeing specialists in the next few weeks for a way ahead and Buster Brown will keep us updated. No new news on Bob since last report. Sylvain reported that Buster was in the QEII being checked out. He says he has a good doctor and is in good hands. No visitation.

Minutes the 27th March 2019 MGM minutes were distributed by email and copies were available tonight for review. The minutes were accepted as amended. There were questions why there were three revisions of the last month's minutes. This was explained by the chairman that several errors were picked up by individuals which needed to be amended and minutes reissued. It was suggested the amendments be highlighted and spelled out in the email resending the corrected minutes so it would not be necessary to reread the whole document to find the changes. (this was for the lazy people who couldn't bother to read the whole minutes again). Someone said let him read the whole thing again. This will be done.

Correspondence The secretary reported 2 editions of Tridents were received and distributed around the mess. He also received the annual bill for the Dartmouth PO Box Rental of \$224 and a bill of \$99 for secretarial supplies which he paid for both. These were passed to Brum Tovey to be passed on to the Treasurer. There was no correspondence out. The secretary also passed on the 50/50 proceeds of \$60 from the Mar MGM to Brum Tovey to pass on to the treasurer.

Reports Chairman Sylvie sadly reported that Daniel Lloyd Little our guest speaker for this evening, author of Canadian Armed Forces adventures, had to give his regrets for this evening due to that he was down with the stomach flu. Sylvain asked if he could make the last Wednesday MGM in June as we have a guest speaker for May. He said he will try to make it.

Vice Chair Jim Northrup gave no report

Secretary Rob Fraser reported that he had just received an email from a friend in Ottawa concerning a UCR submitted on old-style sea boots in 1997 which caused foot, knee, back pain and leg pain. These reports could be used by members to submit for pension claims if they are suffering from these health

issues. This email will be forwarded to all members in the near future by the secretary. Bazoo said that there was sizing problem with some being too narrow for the actual size indicated. The Beast said they were comfortable. Bazoo indicated he was going in for an operation on his big toes. There were lots of shit chucking about comparing toes and toe jam.

Treasurer Brum Tovey gave Ron Cooper's financial report for the 24th April 2019, which was passed out to the members as Ron was at the Moosehead's playoff hockey game with Terry Chatham. The closing bank balance is now \$11,753.79 after bank charges.

Social Brum Tovey gave his normal joke to start things off for his report (a clean one for a change). Brum reported that he had met up with Luc Pelletier in DR resort while he was on vacation with some of the boys. They had a drink and toasted the Queen. Luc looks well and is doing well in retirement. Luc lives in Upper Tantalou. Luc said he will try to come to some MGM in the future. Brum reported that there is no change to the Summer BBQ which is still on for Saturday the 20th July at the Dube's and the Xmas Dinner/Dance is still slated for the 20th December at the Sackville Lions Club. Bazoo informed the meeting it would be nice if an official letter from the SAOC Chairman be sent to Helen Dube requesting if we can use her place for the Summer BBQ. She was all worried that we may not have it at her place this year. Helen always looks forward to this event every year. Bazoo volunteered to write a letter of appreciation to Helen and to request the use of her place for the summer BBQ on behalf of the chairman. Sylvain will send Bazoo the form letter. Brian Lapierre requested that an official invite be sent by the chairman to Charlie McManus's wife and daughter as Charlie had left a bequest of \$200 to be spent on beer keg for the summer BBQ. Crystal, Charlie's daughter has been involved with the naval Museum Submarine Room at Stadacona as part of NSCC design department and runs the arts design course. Jim Northrup will draft this letter on behalf of the chairman.

Membership Update Brian Lapierre had \$240 to turn into the treasurer from collected dues. Brian reported there are 45 Life Members, 84 Members paid for 2018 and beyond and 29 members who have not paid dues since 2017. We have a total 129 paid up members. If anyone wants to pay for 2019, see Brian after the meeting. It was remarked that Brian was losing weight and perhaps he will be able to fit back in his old blue rig.

Slops Greg Hallonquist gave his regrets for this evening, therefore no report.

Old Business Navy League Cadets Submarine Training follow up Pete Lindstrom gave his follow up report. The Bidwell Commanding Officer liked the 100th Anniversary pins which could be awarded to cadets on successfully passing the submarine course. Pete has done up the lesson plans. They still need money to purchase the pins. We have lots of these pins in slops. It was decided by the Bidwell CO to start the course in Sept or later until they have permission. This still has to go through the chain of command to see if this is acceptable. Then it will be brought to Earl Corn's attention as he is the president of the Navy League of Canada. Pete had talked to Earl Corn and he said that he will only make a decision about this pin once it comes through official channels. There was discussion/confusion about the dolphin pins which was looked at in last month's meeting. No official CF qualification badge would be given to the cadets. It was moved by Keith Estrabrooks and 2nd by Brian Cooper that next month's 50/50 proceeds would be put towards the cost of the pins. **Carried** The chairman, Sylvie Rouillard will compose an email asking membership if they would like to donate or sponsor the cadets for this worthwhile project. Pete said he will try to invite some SAOC member to the cadet graduation in June. Bazoo noted that some of our members had gone through the Navy League and Sea Cadets or had children that went through.

VETS Canada George Byzewski informed the meeting that he had donated \$100 to Vets Canada Drop-In and Support Centre in Dartmouth. He informed us that over 125 veterans apply for food vouchers help every week. He thinks the majority of the veterans applying for help are ex-army vets from Afghanistan. The Vets Canada organization are only helped out by donations. George said we have made donations to other charities in the past now it is time to look after ourselves. Bazoo thinks that we should make a regular donations for SAOC to be recognized. Jim Northrup stated that the Vets Canada had been started

by an ex-submariner cook. Jim Northrup informed us that one in twelve of the homeless in Toronto are Veterans. It was remarked that when they got back from overseas, they were divorced and lost half their pension to the ex-wives. Mark Aalbers informed us that for every dollar donated it can stretched to double ie \$100 can be made to effect \$200. This is because of help of businesses supporting the Vets Canada. NS. After much discussion it was moved by George Byzewski and seconded Mark Aalbers that \$200 to donated to Vets Canada. **Carried.**

More discussion followed concerning our charitable donations, such as if we can afford to keep doing this on reoccurring basis without increasing dues or fundraising; as of now, we are just breaking even with our annual dues and 50/50 proceeds. Members are still encouraged to donate on their own so spread the word. John Meehan will look into his Legion's Poppy Campaign which goes into a trust fund to assist legion members in distress. Could this money be put towards assisting Vets Canada? John will investigate. It was suggested that we have a charity box at the summer BBQ. Note that we bring canned goods for Helen Dube's Church's food bank. It was asked by the Chairman are we social club or charity? This will be discussed at a future Executive Meeting and a way ahead on how we handle charitable donations will be formulated and brought back to the membership.

Battle of Atlantic Sunday Parade Point Pleasant Park 5 May Jim Northrup and Brian Lapierre will be laying a wreath on SAOC E behalf as the Chairman will be down south. Dress is SAOC Blazer, Beret, Medals with poppy. Wear appropriate gear for the weather. Brian Lapierre informed us that the parade will stop on their way back to the parking lot at the Bonaventure Memorial for giving a salute. John Meehan informed us that here is another parade being held at Commodore Park in Dartmouth sponsored by a couple of legions. If some members cannot make the main one in Point Pleasant Park, they can attend this one. Jim Northrup will pick up the wreath for BOA from Cliff Boettcher.

A Depart with Dignity Ceremonies for CPO2 "Little" Joe McDonald and for CPO2 Jamie Lewis were held at the Escape Tower Mess in D-165 11 & 12 April 2019. Both functions were well attended by our members.

New Business: No new Business

AOB The Beast stated that Terry Chatham pulled his normal thing by eating all his and John's pizza in Charleston. They finally shamed him into buying supper for them.

Brian Lapierre informed us that they are making progress at the Submarine room display in Stad. They are just waiting for the panels from NSCC and for their translations. Cyril Lenny from CTV Atlantic Morning News was there and tried out one of the submarine racks. Hopefully the display will be open by the last week of July. Jim Northrup informed us that the Base Commander is very interested in the Submarine Display and he will be officially opening it in August. LCdr Drew Mattison, the CO of HMCS WINDSOR, will be there as well for the opening. If anyone has not been to the museum you should make the trip. With new management and over twenty retired volunteers they have made great improvements. Bazoo said he has three more boxes of submarine memorabilia for the museum.

Boyd Thomas asked why don't we have SAOC E life membership cards for Life Members? This had been asked before and the executive had seen no need for more stuff to put in your wallet. Boyd stated that other organizations do have life membership cards Some people want this. After much discussion it was decided that if the cost is minimal, we could do this. The executive will investigate and report back.

Rob Fraser asked the membership if anyone still had any Bottles of 100th Submarine Anniversary Iron Works Rum left. He had been asked by Tom Nickel to find out as he is interested in getting a couple bottles. A general laugh was had by all as everyone had consumed it a while ago and nothing was left. So sorry Tom!

George Byzewski had received an email from Zeke Brower-Browerberkhoven if anyone had a copy of pre 1968 form that proceeded the NOK form that had to be filled in prior to sailing. This was not a will but was on the form. Was there a number on the form? No one present knew of this form. This

will be investigated perhaps there is a copy at the museum.

50/50 The 50/50 of \$55 was won by Brian Cooper

Submariners Prayer was read by Pete Lindstrom

Adjournment There being no further business, it was moved by Keith Estrabrooks and seconded by Brian Cooper to adjourn the meeting at 2040 hrs. Carried.

The next MGM will be held at the MOG5 HQ JR Mess 29th May 2019 @ 1930 hrs. The guest speaker for next month will be Gabriel Epprecht from Ecology Action Center of Nova Scotia.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert B Fraser

SAOC (E) Secretary

Sylvain Rouillard

SAOC (E) Chairman