



Submariners Association of Canada (East)

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting
Wednesday 27 January 2021
Via ZOOM Conference Meeting



The Monthly Meeting of SAOC(E) was held via Zoom. A Zoom connection was provided for all members who wished to participate. Emails had been sent out and a posting made on Facebook Group to inform everyone. Once the connection was established greetings were extended all around.

Opening the Chairman, Sylvain Rouillard, brought the meeting to order (open up for dive) at about 19:05 via Zoom. Even though Nova Scotia is doing well Covid wise, he still felt that it was best to do the meeting via Zoom. We have to take each meeting month by month and hopefully as things progress through the year everything will improve. He thanked everyone in the Zoom meeting who connected. A moment of silence was held for all our departed brothers and those who are ailing. Since our last attended meeting we have lost May Boettcher, the wife of member Cliff Boettcher. She passed away on the 23 of January and it was only six weeks from the time she went to the hospital to her passing. Very tragic. There also has been no information if and when there will be a Celebration of Life for Buster Brown, Gus Gardner or Art Bodden or Bob Davidson.

Attendance 24 members were in attendance: Marc Aalbers, John Clahane, William Cleal, Brian Cooper, Ron Cooper, Lloyd Dyck, Sherman Embree, Jim Gordon, Robert Grace (from Ontario), Jim Harris (from Mexico), Brian Lapierre, Shaun MacDougall, Ken McMillan, John Meehan, Jim Northrup, Scotty Parsons, Larry Pike (Newfoundland), Gilles Poirier (Boonies of NS), Luc Rollin, Sylvain Rouillard, David Russell, John Smith, Al (Loon) White (from Chile), Tim Wood.

Regrets None were received.

Health and Wellness Gilles Poirier spent a few days in hospital in Halifax a couple of weeks ago and has to go back in February for a procedure. He said he feels good at this time. Brian Lapierre had been talking to Dave Yeo over on PEI. Apparently, member Tony Halvorson took a fall, suffered a fractured skull, had some brain bleed and other facial injuries. He is in hospital in PEI. Dave said he has been to visit him but it could be a long recovery with his Parkinson's and all. Brian had also received an email from Shawn, Tony's wife explaining a bit about what happened. Brian was also in contact with Mr. Mike Loyal an ex P2ER who works in maintenance at the Long-Term Care Facility in Stittsville, Ontario where Peter Cairns resides. Mike Loyal said he periodically talks to Peter. What the conversations consist of or how conversive Peter is he didn't say. However, he offered if anybody had any messages they wanted to pass to Peter he would do that. That is very nice of Mike Loyal for sure. Rob Braye is feeling a bit down because they changed his Medication. Chris Jones is still on Chemo. Tex Ranger is basically the same with his health. Dick Newman is also the same. If we didn't have a Zoom meeting we wouldn't see everyone who connects from afar so there are some advantages with the Zoom.

Minutes the 27 November 2020 MGM minutes were distributed by email. No errors. The minutes were approved as distributed.

Correspondence In Brian went to the PO mail box and picked up no mail. Brian has also contacted the Red Cross to discontinue any solicitation mails for donations.

Correspondence Out Nil.

Reports Chairman Sylvain stated that we skipped the AGM Meeting in December. So we will have to catch up on the Reports. We did have a meeting at the end of November to discuss the way ahead

for the combined Web Site Proposal. This had been held on the 27th of November 2020. Also, Sylvain mentioned that Mrs. Debbie Sullivan the Silver Cross Mother for 2020 has been invited to the Weekly Zoom Meeting on Friday the 29th of January. Debbie Sullivan is the mother of LT Chris Saunders who died on the Chicoutimi during the Fire. Everyone is looking forward to meeting her.

Vice Chair Jim Northrup. Nothing to Report.

Secretary Nil. Brian Lapierre is recording the meeting and will transcribe it. Brian has accepted the position of Secretary relieving Robbie Fraser. He received the Turnover box from Robbie but has yet to go through it. The mail will be picked up more than once every few months. It needs to be done every couple of weeks.

Treasurer Ron Cooper gave his report. Wished everyone a Happy New Year. Ron hadn't done up a report for tonight's meeting. He will have a full report at the end of February Meeting. At the end of last year 2020 the balance was \$14,490.88. To date the current balance is \$14,487.23 with dues coming out for RBC. Ron also stated that Sylvain has received about \$500.00 in Membership dues so that will be in the end of February Statement. Brian also stated that Ron should have in his possession a cheque of \$50.00 which came in October from the Bodden Family. Again, the money needs to be forwarded to Brian in cheque made out to the Naval Museum of Halifax.

Slops Claude Gendron has agreed to take over Slops from Greg Hallonquist. Claude has inventoried everything and has come up with a total. He told me a couple of weeks that he has \$6000.00 in inventory. We are hoping that when the new website is up and running that we can get a dedicated page for the Slops.

Membership Update Brian Lapierre Brian reported there are 40 Life Members, 90 Members paid for 2020 and beyond for current total of 130. Brian encouraged people to find out their status and pay their dues. An email was sent out last week asking people to pay their dues. As a reminder if people have not paid their dues and are lapsed for one year then their name will be taken off the list and they will no longer receive any emails from SAOC(E).

Send Dues via E-Transfer to: Sylvain.Rouillard.outlook.com

Send Dues via Canada Post to: Submariners Association of Canada East, PO Box 91, Dartmouth, N.S. B2Y 3Y2

Social Nothing to be done with Entertainment due to COVID-19. BBQ and Christmas functions probably will not happen this year, however we'll see how things develop in Halifax later this year and Brian Cooper will let us know of any plans. Any meetings we are going to have will be at Peregrine with its limited capacity but we have to do what we have to do at this time.

Old Business Common saoc.ca website and new hosting service has been purchased and our three associations' websites are being transferred to the new host.

New Business There was a recommendation from SAOC(W) for the creation of a National SAOC Organization. Sylvain apologised for not indicating in the email that it was at the bottom of the agenda for everyone to read. Brian had sent out the document on the 25th of January and asked people to read it and to be prepared to comment at tonight's meeting. We had a show of hands to see how many members had read it. Almost everyone.

Discussion The discussion took place over a period of an hour about the National SAOC Organization proposal. Many comments were made over the hour of which would be too many to post here. The bottom line is that the Chairman wants members to read the document and if they have any comments to forward them to him. If anyone has not received the Document please contact Brian and he will send it to you.

Around the Room Brian will send out the Zoom Meeting poster for the Weekly Meeting Friday evening. Hopefully some members who read it from Chicoutimi will reach out as well. John Clahane when he receives the email will send it out to members at Babcock.

50/50 Draw None held.

Submariners Prayer Skipped.

Adjournment There being no further business, it was moved by Marc Aalbers and seconded by John Clahane to adjourn the meeting at 2030 hrs. **Carried**

The next MGM will be held possibly at Peregrine (with free pizza) and via Zoom on Wednesday 24 February 2021 @ 1700 hrs, or at 1900 hrs if on Zoom only (no free pizza), pending the COVID situation in Halifax.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brian Lapierre

SAOC (E) Secretary

Sylvain Rouillard

SAOC (E) Chairman