



## **Submariners Association of Canada (East)**

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting

Friday 25 June 2021

Via ZOOM Conference Meeting



The Monthly Meeting of SAOC(E) was held via Zoom and combined with the SAOC(E) Weekly Zoom. 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 19:04 via Zoom. He mentioned that we only have a few members online tonight. With the improved cases of COVID-19 and restrictions being lifted in the province it was still prudent to only hold the Zoom Meeting. He thanked everyone in the Zoom meeting who connected.

**Attendance** 10 members were in attendance on Zoom. Jerry Brown, Jeff Cameron, Brian Cooper, Sherm Embree, Jim Harris, Brian Lapierre, Jim Northrup, Phil Rody, Luc Rollin, Sylvain Rouillard, David Russell. One regret from John Meehan was received.

**Out of Town Guests Connected were:** George Roach, Andrew Moulton, Debbie Sullivan.

**Health and Wellness** Nothing to report on Health and Wellness. 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. If anyone knows of anyone ailing please pass it on to the Executive to keep us in "The Loop". We still mention the condolences to Claude Gendron on the passing of his wife. Also to Nancy Heppleston and family on the sudden passing of Peter. Luc Rollin said he is holding his own and is being taken care of by Care Workers and Veterans Affairs.

Since the meeting was held on the 25<sup>th</sup> of June, we have learned of a Celebration of Life to be held for **Donald "Buster" Brown**. It will be held at J.A. Snow's Funeral Home on Lacewood Drive in Halifax on the 17 July at 1400. If you plan on attending please give your name to the Chairman Sylvain Rouillard or the Secretary Brian Lapierre by the 15<sup>th</sup> of July. A maximum of 90 people are able to attend.

**Minutes** The 28 May 2021 MGM minutes were distributed by email. No errors found. The minutes were approved as distributed.

**Correspondence In** Email from Valerie Braunschweig about the Newsletter. She wants articles and dits to be published in the Newsletter. Her email is **valerieanddick@telus.net**.

**Correspondence Out** SAOC(E) send Condolence Cards to the Gendron Family and the Heppleston Family. The Secretary also tries to post a Condolence on the passing person's Funeral Home website.

**Reports Chairman** People are encouraged to connect via the internet on "streaming" a funeral service if one is present. The latest one for Peter Heppleston went very well.

**Vice Chair** Jim Northrup. Nothing to report.

**Secretary** Brian Lapierre is recording the meeting and will transcribe it. The big thing that the Secretary Reported was that the Executive decided to eliminate the Canada Post Office Box. Effective on the 21 April 2021 the Box was closed and all mail will now be forwarded to 73 Portovista Drive, Portuguese Cove, Nova Scotia. B3V 1P3. The reason was that the cost of the PO Box of \$228.00 per year was determined to be excessive for the amount of Snail Mail we received. It was deemed not necessary when we receive a max of 5 letters per year. Most everyone pays their dues with E-Transfers. Please note this and also the address has been changed on the website for the mailing address.

Brian stated that his dialogue with the Submarine Force has been good in trying to establish a good working relationship for obtaining information on the Submarine Force and on serving members.

I have been in contact with Ted Hirtle about the Minutes on the website. He is trying to convert all

minutes to PDF and update. Work in progress.

**Treasurer** No Report available.

**Slops** Nothing to report

**Membership Update** Brian Lapierre. Brian reported there are 39 Life Members, 92 Members paid for 2020 and beyond for current total of 131. Our Life Members are decreasing because Brian has been searching to find out the status of some of the Veterans and have found that a few have passed away and the Association did not know. He is continuing this task. Brian encouraged people to find out their status and pay their dues. An email was sent out a couple of days after the end of April meeting 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, 73 Portovista Drive, Portuguese Cove, Nova Scotia. B3V 1P3**

**Social** Nothing to be done with Entertainment due to COVID-19. BBQ could possibly happen in the fall which will all depend on what the Province tells us.

**Old Business** Nothing to report.

**New Business** Rob Tibbetts on the West Coast who was the Submarine Formation Chief and is now Coxn of the Corner Brook want to assist in keeping SAOC in the picture of the Submarine Force. Also Bill Venator will represent SAOC on the National Level to represent Canadian Submariners for the 2022 International Submarine Congress being held in Sweden. Anyone interested please contact Bill Venator. Gerry Brown gave a presentation as to the status of Ojibwa and doing the lights and final removal of Walter Pidgeon. Of the original \$11966.51 collected there is still \$1650.00 – a few bills left. **If anyone still wishes to contribute money to the project please contact Gerry Brown. If you don't know his contact info contact Brian Lapierre and he will tell you.** Gerry then showed a photo presentation as to the work that has gone on with the lighting and also one of Shawn Preston on how to wear a Safety Harness. Also a comment was stated about saving the Ojibwa and the new “Unseen Warriors” Society which people are encouraged to join. If anyone want to know more contact the President or Secretary.

**Around the Room** Brian talked a little bit about going to the next level with respect to the Submarine Memorial or Monument. Please send any suggestions to Brian. Many obstacles to overcome. We need to form a committee, suggestions for further fund raising events etc. Brian also mentioned that the Name Tag Project is coming along. About 240 Name Tags collected so far. Also he continues to work on Submariners Profiles.

**50/50 Draw** None held.

**Submariners Prayer** was read by Phil Rody before the meeting was opened.

**Adjournment** There being no further business, it was moved by Gerry Brown and seconded by Jim Harris to adjourn the meeting at 2048 hrs. **Carried**

The next MGM will be held at the Peregrine and via Zoom on Wednesday 28 July 2021 @ 17:00 hrs, or Friday 30 July 2021 at 19:00 pending the COVID situation in Halifax. Free pizza O/C.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brian Lapierre

SAOC (E) Secretary

Sylvain Rouillard

SAOC (E) Chairman